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ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

No. 611.—Vol. XXIV.

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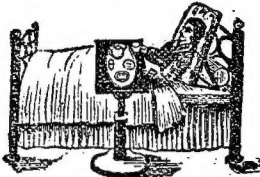
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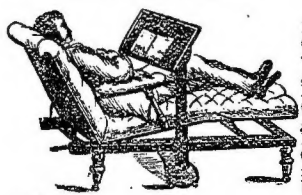
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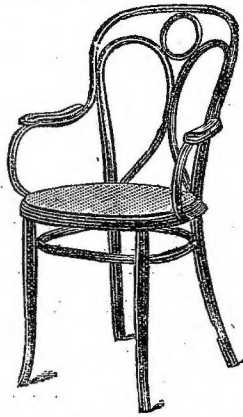
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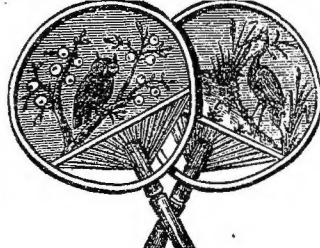
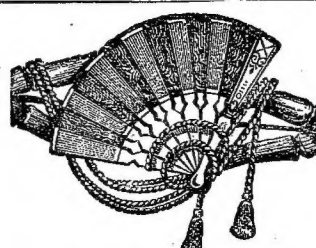
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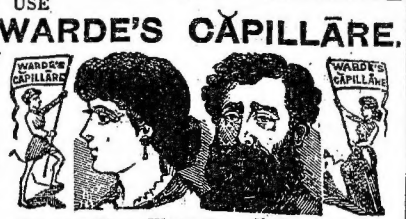
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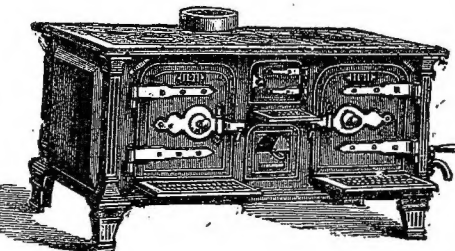
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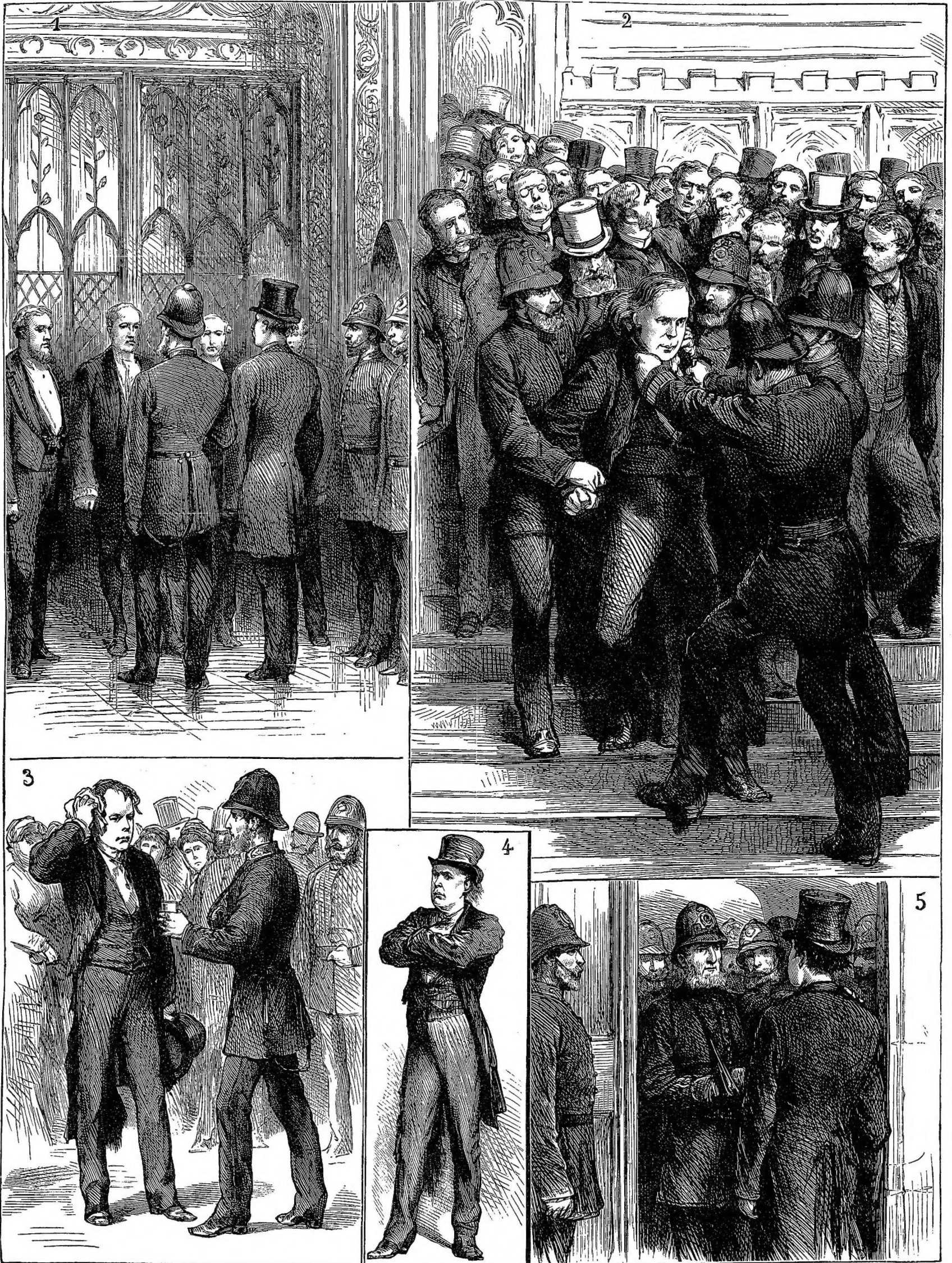
THE GRAPHIC

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

No. 611.—VOL. XXIV.
Regd. at General Post Office as a Newspaper

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1881

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT [PRICE SIXPENCE
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1. At the Door of the House : The Deputy-Serjeant Stops Mr. Bradlaugh.—2. On the Lobby Stairs : Mr. Bradlaugh is Carried Out.—3. After the Struggle : Inspector Denning Offers Refreshment.—4. In Palace Yard : Defeated, but Defiant Still.—5. At the Lobby Door : Inspector Denning's Formal Assault.

MR. BRADLAUGH AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS—SCENES IN THE LOBBY AND PALACE YARD ON THE OCCASION OF THE ATTEMPTED FORCIBLE ENTRY

Topics of the Week

THE LORDS' AMENDMENTS.—The more serious amendments to the clauses of the Land Bill suggested by the House of Lords have not been accepted by the Commons. Some of them, on the ground that they would emasculate the Bill, some that they are badly worded and unintelligible, others that they are amendments needing amendment, have been freely dealt with. Nor is the labour bestowed by the Upper House on the Bill likely to end in any serious alteration in the form or spirit of the measure. To judge from the exodus of peers from town, it would even seem that they are disinclined to meet the amendments upon their amendments with anything like a firm or prolonged opposition. They are not allowed to remain ignorant of the difficulty which must arise from a tenacious adherence to the amendments. The English constituencies are probably tired of the whole discussion, and in hopes that Irish legislation may not come before them for years except in the form of little harbour Bills, and the necessary work of Irish administration. But the Reform Unions and Liberal Associations have not been slow to express the kind of agitation they will set on foot if the House of Lords perseveres in the effort to reduce the significance of the Bill. They will agitate for the abolition of the House of Lords itself. Even if the Lords ignored such menaces, as they well might, the signs which come from Ireland are not in their favour. The farmers, in spite of the advice of the Land League, are anxious, it now seems, to give the Bill a trial, and to stay the agitation until they see how its clauses work, understanding that even the Parliamentary Obstructives have essayed at the last moment to help it through. So that a lengthened opposition would really mean that the Lords were missing a chance of extensive pacification, and keeping pauperised landowners out of their rents.

M. GAMBETTA AND THE SENATE.—M. Gambetta has begun his electoral campaign, as every one expected, with a cry for the revision of the obnoxious Upper House, which recently upset his plans by rejecting his pet scheme of *Scrutin de liste*. But his proposal for remodelling the Senate will hardly enhance his reputation. It does not go far enough for his Radical supporters, and yet goes too far for the average moderate Republican. M. Gambetta, by giving the Chamber a voice in the election of Life Members, practically aims at transforming the Senate into a second edition of the Lower House, whose sole function shall be faithfully to endorse whatever the Deputies may choose to enact. This, of course, strikes at the very root of the reason for the existence of two Houses. If one House is to be the obedient servant of the other, wherein its usefulness? Consequently, why retain it at all? The truth is that M. Gambetta is attempting the very difficult task of serving two masters. He does not wish to shock the great mass of moderate minds, and accordingly refrains from suggesting the abolition of the Senate altogether. At the same time he is as anxious to retain the favour of his old friends the Extreme Radicals, and thus proposes to render the Senators practically innocuous. As usual with people who try to please all parties, he has not succeeded with either. The Radicals, led by M. Clemenceau, mistrust him as an Opportunist. The Moderate Republicans, who have seen France regenerated under the present régime, and who were not so very displeased, after all, that the Senate did venture to reject *Scrutin de liste*, are content to endorse M. Ferry's no-revision programme. For once M. Gambetta has been over-cautious, a failing with which he certainly is not to be credited as a rule. That he himself perceives this is manifest by the recent diatribes against the Senate in the *République Française*. Probably also we shall hear a little more of M. Gambetta's real feelings when he speaks in the more congenial atmosphere of Belleville.

THE PREMIER AND THE COLONIES.—Is the allusion made to the colonies by Mr. Gladstone in his Mansion House speech, the foreshadowing of a new policy in connection with them? Rightly or wrongly it has come to be believed, and nowhere more vehemently than in some of the colonies, that with the advent of a Liberal Ministry comes a period of indifference to colonial life and interests. The Premier repudiates the charge. "We should almost," he observed, "as soon think of renouncing the very name of Englishmen as of renouncing the great duties which, passing beyond the seas, are imposed upon us in regard to the more distant but not less dear portion of the great British Empire." Colonists are likely to ask themselves, however, what precise significance is attached to the word "duties." Is it merely that England is to remain to her distant possessions in her present attitude of benevolent neutrality, or is there to be some effort to make them permanently feel their connection with the mother country and with each other? Is there to be a Confederation, on terms of equality, of all the members of the Empire, so that the English race will be conscious of advancing together, instead of rising and falling in isolated communities throughout the world? Such is the very widely entertained dream of Englishmen at the Antipodes, even while they look forward to domestic independence for themselves, and Mr. Gladstone's observations will have the effect of pointing the way to its realisation.

THE MEDICAL CONGRESS.—This is an age of Congresses. Every autumn come reports of International gatherings of men attached to various professions and trades, who assemble at some well-known centre to talk over the chief features of their respective callings, to discuss grievances, and to compare notes as to the discoveries or improvements effected since they last met. Foremost amongst these in public interest is the Medical Congress, which for the past week has been holding its meetings in London. We may not be all concerned in Iron and Steel, we may not all care about Art or Architecture, we may look upon Philology as dry, or Bi-metallism as a bore, but we are all deeply interested in our own selves and our bodily welfare, and to secure this last is precisely the object and aim of all the members of this Congress. In no way have the immense strides which the medical profession has made during comparatively recent years been more amply demonstrated than by the various papers which have been read in the different sections. Doctors may differ, it is true, like M. Pasteur and Dr. Bastian on such abstruse questions as whether or no life can be spontaneously generated, but the very fact of these differences leads to researches being made both by themselves and by their disciples, which, while not practically deciding the question at issue, have a most important bearing upon the general treatment of disease. Moreover, what one man discovers is common property. The medical profession is no close corporation, and at a Congress of this nature there are no trade secrets to keep back, but one and all are anxious to impart the outcome of their experience to their colleagues. To the general public also the papers are well worth perusal, and the powerful defence of vivisection by Professor Virchow, the clear and lucid treatise on lunacy, and its threefold treatment, by Dr. Lockhart Robertson, the sketch of Military Medical Practice by Professor Longmore, and the reviews of Medicine and Surgery by Sir William Gull and Professor Erichsen, cannot but prove interesting to the most unscientific of readers. Medicine, above all, is essentially an international profession, and it can only be felt that such meetings as these, where the most eminent members of the healing art meet to exchange their experiences, must prove a direct benefit to science and to mankind.

A REVOLUTIONARY CONVENTION.—There seems to be no law of progress at work in the organisation of Fenian Societies. In the autumn of 1864 a Convention of the Delegates of the Brotherhood was held at Chicago, and among other advice tendered was one that "cities and towns and parishes of Ireland should have their brigades, regiments, battalions, and companies of partially disciplined soldiers of liberty silently enrolled." O'Donovan Rossa, at that time proprietor of a Fenian journal in Ireland, made himself the literary mouthpiece of the movement, and, later on, under an amnesty, was allowed to retire to New York. The movement, however, presently came to an end, the most notable Fenians accusing each other of peculation. The Fenian Convention, which has been sitting at Chicago this week, appears to occupy the same ground as its predecessor. Some of the members have been offering each other their coat-tails to tread upon, while others are accusing the remainder of peculation. O'Donovan Rossa, indeed, charges the Revolutionary Committee with being unable to account for 90,000 dollars, a deficiency which shows the scale upon which the subterranean movement works. For the present the organisation is weakened by a new defection, the party which approves of supplementing the propagandism of the society by the science of explosives finding itself in a minority. But they still propose to carry on the dynamite war on their own account.

THE CLERICAL WAR IN ROME.—The Italian Government must bitterly regret not having taken better precautions to secure order during the transport across Rome of the remains of Pius IX. For the first time for many years the Vatican has set forth a grievance which cannot but excite the sympathy of the world at large, and, as may be expected, it is by no means slow to make the most of it. Putting religious and political considerations on one side, there is something unutterably repugnant to all good feeling in the bare idea of a turbulent crowd hooting and pelting a funeral procession, and even raising a cry to throw the poor body itself into the river. Indeed, the blame which in his recent allocution Leo XIII. attributes to "those who did not defend either the rights of Religion, or the liberty of the Citizen," will be widely endorsed. That the Italian Government did not do its duty is plain. No official escort would have been necessary. A few hundred soldiers stationed in the neighbourhood, or following the cortege at a distance, would have been amply sufficient to have prevented the disgraceful scenes which took place. Even had the authorities taken the matter firmly in hand after the event, and, rigidly suppressing the subsequent disturbances, have tendered an apology to the Pope for what would have been considered a scandalous outrage on the meanest of citizens, some excuse might have been made on the score of want of foresight. But as it is the Government, evidently fearful of offending the Radical party, have acted in a very half-hearted way, and though a scapegoat has been found in the person of the Police Prefect, who has been dismissed, great tenderness has been shown to the promoters of anti-Clerical meetings, and to the editors of Irreconcilable organs. Thus they have given Leo XIII. an opportunity to ask, if such insults are heaped upon a dead Pope, what treatment could a living Pontiff expect were he to show himself, to exclaim,

"Truly am I not justified in calling myself the Prisoner of the Vatican?" and to complain that he will be compelled to leave a city where he enjoys neither "liberty nor security." That the Italian Government and the Vatican can never be good friends is only in the natural order of things. But surely it is a mistaken policy to furnish so dangerous an adversary with a reasonable pretext to pose as a martyr before the world.

GOVERNMENT AID TO PROVINCIAL MUSEUMS.—It is one of the signs of the wide-spread interest now taken in the technical education of the labouring classes that Mr. Jesse Collings, in the debate upon the Education Estimates, should have moved for an extension of aid to art and industry in the provinces. The more the conditions of foreign competition are understood, the clearer it is seen that to the technical colleges of France, Germany, and Belgium is due that fineness of workmanship in certain manufactures to which English artisans have not been able to attain. But it is one thing to recognise the necessity for technical education, and another to ask for a set of provincial museums, supported by Government grants, in order to establish it. It was urged, in support of that view, that on the prosperity of the provincial towns depends the prosperity of London, and that grants should be administered to country museums in the same manner as they are to the Central Museum at South Kensington. But South Kensington is a training college for the whole kingdom, and, in addition to that, it sends round its treasures to all Corporations which care to ask for them, so long as they may be lent out for study. A grant might as well be asked for the local sewers and the water which "flushes" them.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—The hint that Lord Coleridge dropped during a recent trial that Parliament was not unlikely to take into consideration the present state of the law regarding breach of promise of marriage, has revived an old controversy as to whether or no pecuniary damages should be awarded for what many consider to be a sentimental grievance. That the existing mode of procedure is eminently unsatisfactory is almost universally acknowledged. In the first place the Court has to decide whether any promise has ever been made, and this entails the reading of many love-letters which, however amusing to people in general, cannot but be exceedingly painful to both of the parties concerned, while occasionally it is an absolute waste of public time. Then, again, the compensation and its amount is left to the appreciation of the jury, whose appraisals of wounded affections are apt to be as capricious as they frequently are remarkable. It is true that in some cases a woman spends the best and most attractive years of her life in waiting for a man who finally jilts her, when, to speak commercially, her marriageable market value is on the decline. On the other hand, how many young men are led by circumstances, perhaps by a sudden gush of sentimentality, to enter into an engagement which, on reflection, they feel it would be a life-long misery to fulfil. In some countries there is a regular legal form of betrothal, and the system has much to recommend it. In this way the woman is amply protected from all deception, while the man who would not hesitate to promise a woman marriage, either verbally or by letter, would pause before entering into a recognised legal contract—the rupture of which would be attended by definite pains and penalties. That so solemn a compact, which directly affects the lives and fortunes of two people, and indirectly the welfare of the whole community, should be entered into lightly and informally, is surely an anomaly in this practical age, and the subject is certainly—our Hibernian cousins permitting—worthy the attention of our representatives at Westminster.

THE "GRAPHIC" SCHOOL OF ENGRAVING ON WOOD.—Some years ago a belief prevailed that before long wood-engraving would be superseded by various less costly processes. This belief, however, long deterred persons from embarking in a profession which they feared might before long prove unremunerative. Experience has shown that these fears were baseless. Wood-engraving holds, and is likely to continue to hold, its own against all competitors. But, meanwhile, there is a great scarcity at the present time of good engravers; and unless a practical effort is made to attract clever students into the profession, the most artistic work will fall into the hands of foreigners. For some time past the Proprietors of *The Graphic* have experienced an increasing difficulty in obtaining the assistance of high-class engravers, and they have therefore determined to form a School of Engraving for male students, in which they will be instructed for a term of five years. No premium will be required; but the candidates will still have a fortnight's trial of their drawings submitted, and after selection they will be paid a sum before being definitely accepted. After the first year, the students will be paid a sum (according to progress made) varying from £13 in the second, to £75 in the fifth year. The hours of attendance will be from 9 A.M. until 6 P.M., with an hour allowed for dinner; but students regularly attending evening classes at the Government Schools of Design will be allowed to leave at 5 P.M. Intending candidates must send in specimens of their drawings, stating whether they are original or copies, also age of candidate, addressed "To the Manager of *The Graphic*, 190, Strand, W.C.," and marked "Drawings for Competition."

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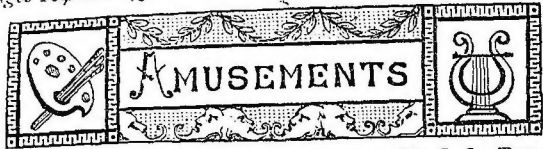
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AUGUST 13, 1881

NOTICE.—With this Number is published an EXTRA FINE-ART SUPPLEMENT, containing the following Pictures exhibited in the Royal Academy:—"IN FLAGRANTE DELICTO," by Cathinka Amyot;—"SIR GALAHAD," by Herbert Schmalz; and—"THE BENEDICTION," by James D. Linton.—The Half-Sheet this week, though delivered in the middle of the paper, must be placed for binding between pages 164 and 173.



FOLLY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. L. TOOLF. STAMPER SEASON (under the Management of Mr. Carton). "IMPRUDENCE" an unqualified success. New and Original Comedy, in Three Acts, by A. W. Pinero, entitled IMPRUDENCE, preceded at 7.30 by HIS LAST LEGS. Mr. Carton, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Clifford Cooper, Mr. A. Wood, Mr. A. Redwood, Mr. G. L. Gordon, Mr. Hugh Moss, Mr. W. H. Gilbert, and Miss Kate Bishop. Musical Compton, Miss Emily Miller, Miss Laura Lindon, and Mr. Edward Righton. Miss Director, Mr. Barrow. No Fees. Acting Manager, Mr. F. Cavendish Macdonnell.

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VOLUME XXIII.

THE GRAPHIC

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MR. BRADLAUGH AND PARLIAMENT

LAST week we gave an account of Mr. Bradlaugh's futile attempt to force his way into the House of Commons, and this week we publish some pictorial notes of the chief incidents, which are sufficiently explained by their respective titles. It will be noticed that Inspector Denning has his arm in a sling, and it is, perhaps, as well to state that the injury to it was not received on that day, but on an earlier and entirely different occasion. The position of affairs as they now stand may be briefly stated. Mr. Bradlaugh is laid up with erysipelas, and though he has expressed his intention of going again to the House, he may not be able to do so until next Session, when, the Sessional Orders having expired, his passage to the table will not be barred; though whether he will be permitted to take the Oath without opposition remains to be seen. As to his intention to resort to physical force, it is perhaps fairest to take his own statement, made on Saturday at Northampton, to the effect that he meant to win by law and right; rather than that of Mrs. Besant (though made in his name) at the Hall of Science on the following day. His application for a summons against Inspector Denning for the technical assault was refused by the magistrate, and the technical difficulties of the case are so great that he does not think it would be of any use to apply for a *mandamus*. He has obtained a rule nisi

for a new trial in the suit "Clarke v. Bradlaugh;" but the hearing cannot come on until after the Long Vacation; whilst his summons against Mr. Newdegate for "maintenance" has also been adjourned by agreement for a long period—until September 20. In response to Mr. Labouchere's appeal, Mr. Gladstone has stated that, should Mr. Bradlaugh next Session claim to take the Oath, the Government will deem it their duty to consider the question with a view to the termination of the controversy; and we can only hope that the whole matter may then be settled in a satisfactory manner.

"PHORMIO" AT THE EDGBASTON ORATORY

CARDINAL NEWMAN has followed up his adaptation of Terence's *Eunuchus*, so successfully performed last year by the Edgbaston Oratory boys, with a revised edition of the same author's *Phormio*, which was duly rendered by the scholars at the Oratory last month. *Phormio* has ever been the most popular of Terence's plays, and Cardinal Newman has removed its chief objectionable feature by changing the male character Dorio into a mercenary stepmother, and practically dismissing it from the scene altogether. To give a brief outline of the plot. Two brothers, Demipho and Chremes, leave home on a journey, and during their absence their respective sons, Antipho and Phædria, fall in love, the former with Phanium, an Athenian lady, the latter with Pamphila, a schoolgirl under the rule of an avaricious stepmother. At the suggestion of Phormio the Parasite, Antipho marries Phanium on the pretext that he is her next of kin, and consequently compelled by the law of Athens to do so. Demipho, on his return, is horrified at this step, as he had intended his son to marry a daughter of Chremes by a second wife. Chremes is no less disappointed, all the more so as he has been to Lemnos, and has been unable to discover his daughter's whereabouts. Accordingly the two brothers offer a bribe to Phormio to get Phanium off their hands. Phormio takes the bribe, but employs the money for Phædria in buying Pamphila, who was being sold as a slave by her stepmother. It transpires, however, that Phanium is actually the daughter of Chremes, and the very bride destined by the old men for Antipho, and upon this discovery they demand the money back from Phormio. The latter, however, wilyly saves himself by disclosing to Chremes' first wife, Nausistrata, the fact of Chremes' faithlessness. Ultimately an all-round reconciliation takes place, the young men obtain their brides, and Nausistrata forgives her husband. Our scene is taken from the fifth Act, where the irate old man Demipho, wishing to drag Phormio before the tribunal, the Parasite says coolly: "Indeed, if you begin to be troublesome—'What will you do?' asks Demipho. 'I? Perhaps you think I am patron only to dowerless ladies. Sometimes to dowered ones also,' and then, to the surprise of Demipho and the horror of Chremes, he reveals his knowledge of the secret marriage. The performance was in every way a success, the slave Geta, who, although the character of Phormio gives the title to the piece, is the real guiding spirit in the various intrigues, was well played by Mr. Eaton, jun., while Phormio was portrayed with considerable spirit by Mr. Prendergast. Mr. Pollen, sen., made a most graceful Nausistrata, Mr. Vaughan a dignified Chremes, while the remaining characters were personated with great humour and intelligence. A word should be said for the costumes and accessories, which combined archaeological accuracy with considerable pictorial effect.

THE ANNEXATION OF ROTUMAH

THESE sketches were taken on the occasion of the formal proclamation of the annexation of the Island of Rotumah to the British Crown, a ceremony which was performed by his Excellency Mr. G. W. Des Voeux, the Governor of Fiji, who was conveyed thither by H.M.S. *Miranda*, under the command of the Hon. Edward Dawson, which anchored in Lee Bay on the 12th of May last. On the following day his Excellency, accompanied by all the officers of the vessel and a body of marines as guard of honour, landed on the island, and in the presence of the assembled chiefs and a crowd of natives the British flag was hoisted, the Royal Proclamation read and explained, and a salute of twenty-one guns fired by the *Miranda*. On the following day a great "Meki" or native war-dance was performed by the male natives, and other dances of a picturesque character by the women and girls; and a feast was given. All the natives exhibited a most friendly spirit, and seemed greatly interested in everything appertaining to the ship. On the 15th the *Miranda* started on her return voyage to Levuka, the residence of the Governor of Fiji. The island, which has been taken under the protection of the British Government at the special request of the natives, is situated about 250 miles north-west of Fiji. It is six miles in length by two in breadth, and has a population of about 3,000, who depend mainly for subsistence on their cocoa-nut plantations.—Our engravings are from sketches by Mr. D. R. Mander, of H.M.S. *Miranda*.

THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS

AT the concluding meeting of the Congress on Tuesday, it was officially stated by the Secretary, Mr. MacCormac, that the number of delegates was 3,210, and that during the week there had been 119 sectional meetings, at which no fewer than 464 written and 360 spoken communications had been made. The bulk of this work was of so peculiarly technical a nature as to be almost incomprehensible to any but members of the profession, but some of the addresses at the general meetings, though tough and abstruse enough in their way, were of a very interesting character, even to comparative outsiders. Among these was Professor Virchow's masterly defence of vivisection, in his address on the value of Pathological Experiment, though many people would probably decline to accept his dictum that "there is no greater hardship involved in putting animals to death, in order to promote public welfare, by means of scientific experiment, than in killing them for food." Dr. Lockhart Robertson, in his address on Lunacy in England, showed how the great increase in the registered numbers might be explained without accepting the popular fallacy of an increase of insanity, and, after referring to the incontestable superiority of public over private asylums, went on to say that the question of future reform was not whether or how insane persons should be detained in public or private asylums, but rather whether and when they should be placed in asylums at all, and when and how they should be liberated. He added that as Lord Chancellor's visitor he had personally watched Chancery lunatics, thirty per cent. of whom were in his opinion needlessly, and therefore wrongly, confined.

The old, yet strangely fascinating subject of spontaneous generation was discussed in a most spirited and learned manner by Dr. Bastian, Professor Béchamp, and Dr. W. Roberts on the one hand, and Professor Pasteur and Mr. Watson Cheyne on the other. On Saturday the subject of vivisection was again alluded to by Professor Owen, who, unveiling the Folkestone statue of Harvey, spoke eulogistically of "the great vivisector," and remarked that modern "humanitarians" seemed neither to know nor care what benefits to suffering humanity they obstructed.

The subject of vaccination was of course discussed, and, in connection with it Professor Pasteur's elaborate account of his most recent researches in animal vaccination in relation to chicken-cholera and splenic fever, was highly interesting. On Tuesday, at the last general meeting of the Congress, Professor Huxley delivered a lengthy and eloquent address on the connection between the biological sciences and medicine, the latter term being taken in its widest and most comprehensive sense. He traced the history of this "purescience" from the time of its originator, René Descartes, and showed how men had gradually abandoned the idea that the body was like a machine, the different parts of which were essentially separate, and

might therefore be treated independently; and learnt that it might rather be likened to an army, each cell a soldier, each organ a brigade, the central nervous system headquarters and field telegraph, the alimentary and the circulatory system the commissariat, losses being made good by recruits born in camp, and the life of the individual being a campaign, conducted successfully for a number of years, but with certain defeat in the long run. After Professor Huxley's address, Mr. MacCormac, the energetic honorary secretary-general, read a brief report of the labours of the week, and the Congress unanimously adopted a resolution, recording its conviction that experiments on living animals have proved of the utmost value to medicine in the past, and are indispensable for its future progress; that accordingly, while strongly deprecating the infliction of unnecessary pain, it was of opinion that, alike in the interest of man and of animals, it is not desirable to restrict competent persons in the performance of such experiments. Another resolution was also passed recommending the Governments of various countries to adopt a new system of tests for detecting colour-blindness to be applied to all persons engaged in working signals by land or sea. Medals of honour were then presented to the President of the last Congress (Professor Donders, of Utrecht), to the Secretary-General (Dr. Guye, of Amsterdam), to Madame Raynaud, as a souvenir of the part her late husband was to have taken in the present Congress; also to the readers of general addresses, viz.: Professor Virchow (Berlin), Dr. Féréol (Paris), Dr. Billings (Washington), Professor Volkmann (Halle), Professor Pasteur (Paris), Professor Huxley (London). Sir James Paget then bade the members good-bye "in its fullest meaning, which was that they might have all good—that good which came but of doing good; and the Congress was at an end."

A CUTTER MATCH ON THE THAMES

A FRESH wind from the north-east blowing against the ebb tide knocks up quite a sea in Gravesend Reach. The competing yachts ride stern to wind, with springs on the port quarter to cant their heads the right way.

At the first gun the crews climb to the mast head, and stand with the halyards in their hands waiting the signal to start. The gun fires and every man jumps into the air. As they come sliding down the great white sails rise slowly, belling before the breeze. As each man touches the deck he springs up the ratlines and again comes down with the halyard. The sails rise higher and the graceful cutters, beginning to feel their weight, heel over, and fly through the water. Now they come to the wind, the clouds of canvas are hauled flat, and they shoot away on the other tack, lying well down and throwing the spray half-way up the mast. Crossing and recrossing the crowded river, each strives to get to windward of the rest. Now and then, one of them, struck by a fresh puff, is pressed down until it seems impossible that she should ever rise again. But next moment she has recovered, and goes merrily on her course.

The Lower Hope is now passed, and they are in Sea Reach, fighting against the heavier swell as they near the sea. Still beating to windward they pass the Chapman.

As they approach the Nore the accompanying steamer goes ahead, and slows down close to the Lightship to see the yachts sail round. One after another they come to the wind, then, putting their helms up and slacking off their sheets, they run away for home. Now they sway their topmasts up and set their topsails, and one or two of the more determined rig out their spinnaker booms. The last of them has now rounded the Nore, and we steam ahead to overtake the leading vessels running up close to the Blyth Sand, the leading cutter hauls aft her sheet, the great sail shivers, then gybes over with a lurch which lays her almost over on her beam-ends. Away goes her topmast over her bows. The yachts following let go their topsail halyards and gybe with more care. Now setting their topsails again, with the wind on the quarter, they run for the Ovens. Once more they gybe, and the wind having lulled a little, all set spinnakers and crowd in to the finish.

A gun is fired as the winning boat passes the mark. Three cheers are given for her, and the race is over.

OUR FINE-ART SUPPLEMENT

MANY household misdeeds are laid down to the "cat," but it is not often that the offender is so neatly "caught in the act" as Madame Cathinka Amyot has depicted in her Academy picture, "IN FLAGRANTE DELICTO." Pussy has manifestly been prowling about forbidden shelves in search of that delicious mug of cream which her sharp eyes had seen her mistress place above her reach. Unfortunately for pussy, she appears to have miscalculated her spring, and brought both herself and the cream to grief.—Our illustration is engraved by permission of the proprietor, Joseph Mellor, Esq.

"THE BENEDICTION" is the second of a series of six pictures, which Mr. J. D. Linton is painting, representing incidents in the career of a soldier of the sixteenth century. The scene is laid on the frontier of South-Eastern Germany, and consequently in a district where constant warfare prevailed at that time. The picture in question represents the chieftain (the centre kneeling figure) receiving the benediction of the Bishop (a Dominican), who is holding a reliquary in his left hand, and blessing with his right. Behind the chieftain are his companions in arms, and on the left are his father, brother, and sister taking part in the ceremony. The background is the interior of a Byzantine church, such as would exist in a country influenced by Eastern architecture, and is supposed to be the church of a Dominican monastery, all the ecclesiastics being Dominicans. The picture is painted with considerable vigour, and has formed one of the chief centres of attraction at this year's Academy Exhibition.

The legend of the "HOLY GRAIL," so stirring told in Tennyson's well-known poem, has furnished Mr. Herbert Schmalz with an admirable subject for his brush. The scene selected is where the "pale nun," Sir Percivale's sister, belts Sir Galahad with a girdle wrought from her own hair, and bids him, in the verse quoted, to "go forth, for thou shalt see what I have seen"—a prophecy fulfilled as all will remember. Sir Percivale subsequently, when returning unsuccessful from his search, relates of Sir Galahad:—

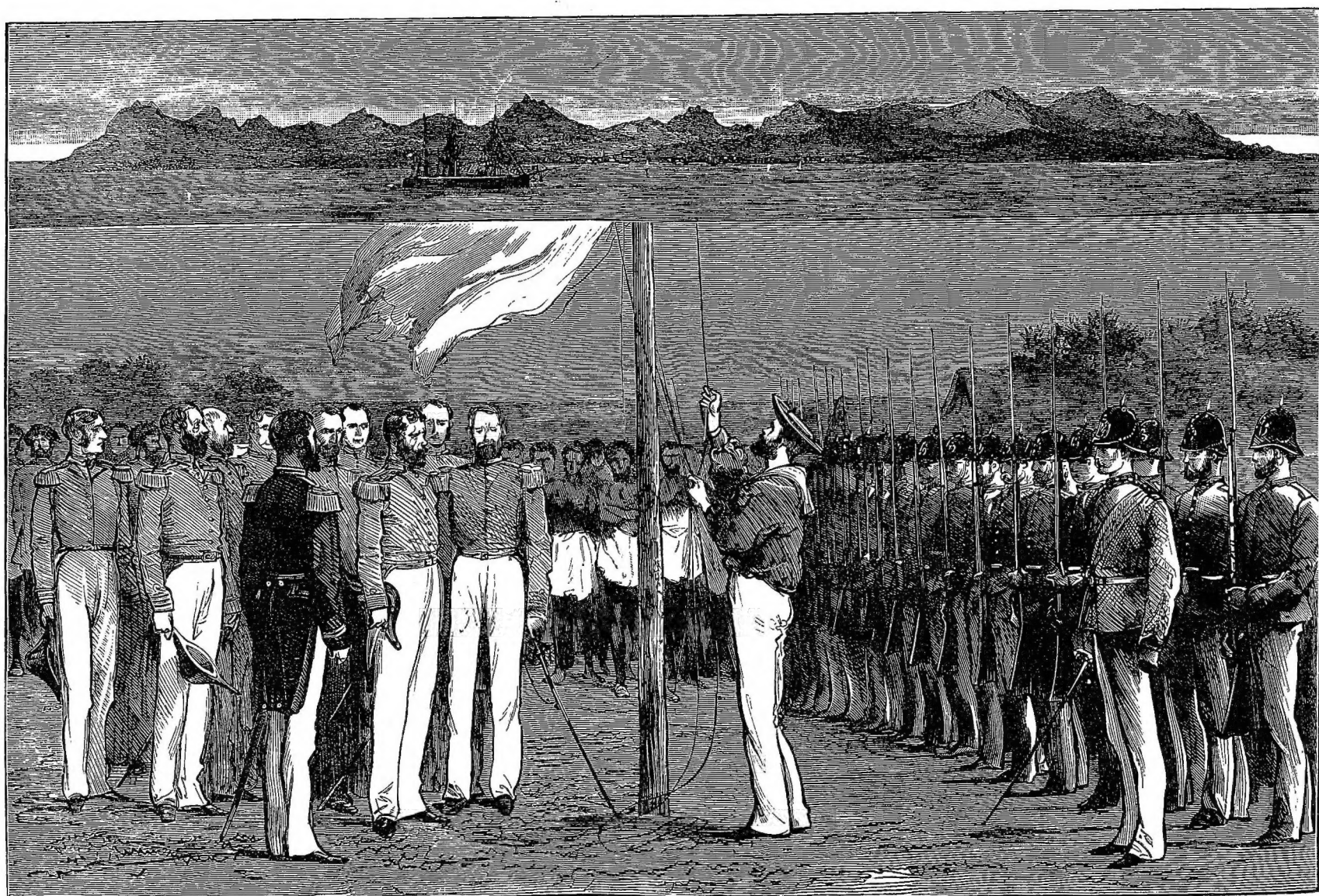
I saw him far on the great Sea,
In silver-shining armour starry clear;
And o'er his head the holy vessel hung
Clothed in white samite or a luminous cloud.
And with exceeding swiftness ran the boat,
If boat it were—I saw not whence it came.
And when the heavens opened and blazed again
Roaring, I saw him like a silver star—
And had he set the sail, or had the boat
Become a living creature clad with wings?
And o'er his head the holy vessel hung
Redder than any rose, a joy to me,
For now I knew the veil had been withdrawn.
Then in a moment when they blazed again
Opening, I saw the least of little stars
Down on the waste, and straight beyond the star
I saw the spiritual city and all her spires
And gateways in a glory like one pearl—
No larger, tho' the goal of all the saints—
Strike from the sea; and from the star there shot
A rose-red sparkle to the city, and there
Dwelt, and I knew it was the Holy Grail,
Which never eyes on earth again should see.

MASERU, DESTROYED BY THE BASUTOS

THE little hamlet of Maseru is one of the magistrate's stations in Basutoland, situated on the River Caledon, which separates the Orange Free State from Basutoland. On the outbreak of hostilities



SCENE FROM TERENCE'S "PHORMIO," AS PERFORMED BY THE EDGBASTON ORATORY BOYS, BIRMINGHAM



1. H.M.S. *Miranda* in Lee Bay.—2. Hoisting the British Flag, May 13, 1881
THE ANNEXATION OF ROTUMAH



THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS—CONVERSATION AT SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM

Prince Henry of Prussia
 Sir W. Jenner, Bart.
 Dr. Ball (Paris)
 Sir J. Paget, Bart. (President)
 Mr. Prescott Hewitt, F.R.C.S.
 Professor Balfour
 The Crown Prince of Prussia
 Mr. A. Bellamy, F.R.C.S.
 Professor Acland
 Professor Huxley
 Dr. Crisp
 Dr. S. J. Wilks
 Mr. W. MacCormac (Secretary-General)
 Mr. John Marshall, F.R.C.S.
 Sir H. Thompson
 Dr. Beverley Coles
 Dr. Crilly Hewitt
 Dr. Billings (Washington)
 Dr. Keller

it was garrisoned by Colonel Bayley and a force of Cape Mounted Rifles, who were speedily besieged by a force of rebels. The latter, attacking in force on October 10, 1880, compelled the British to take refuge in the Residency and the fort; and being unable to follow them there, they pillaged and burnt the greater part of the station, including the church, schools, and store-houses, carefully carrying off their contents.—Our engraving represents the condition of Maseru after the action. It is from a photograph by Mr. Armstrong, Bloemfontein, Orange Free State.

PRESIDENT BRAND AND HIS FAMILY AND

TO THE GREAT NORTH-WEST WITH THE MARQUIS OF LORNE

See page 164.

"OLD CROME"

See page 165.

SIGNS OF "THE TWELFTH"

By the time these pages are in the hands of our readers the grouse season will have commenced, and many an ardent sportsman will be busy with his breechloader upon the moors in the North. Confident promises have for some time past been made that the year would be a good one for grouse, and according to the latest reports these hopes are likely to be realised. Inverness, the capital of the grouse district, has been very busy during the last week or two, for thither go most of the Highland "gillies" to offer their services as beaters, gun-loaders, &c., on the moors. Our artist has sketched a group of these braw Highlandmen assembled in front of the office of one of the principal agents, where the business of hiring for the season is briskly carried on.

"THE LAST MOMENTS OF THE GIRONDISTS, 1793"

THE trial and execution of the leaders of the Girondists—that ill-fated party which, regarded as ardent Republicans during the last days of the Monarchy, proved far too Conservative and "Royalist" for the taste of the Revolutionists of 1793—have long formed a favourite subject for the pencil of the artist. Certainly M. Piloty has found a most congenial theme in the picture before us. Look at the courageous demeanour on the faces of the prisoners as they are driven to the scaffold, singing the "Marseillaise;" at the brutal bearing of their *sans culotte* escort; at the varied expressions on the faces of the mob—some eager for "more blood;" others, half pitying, half-sympathising with the unfortunate prisoners, and at the stolid countenances of the old women knitting at the foot of the guillotine, and passing mocking or callous remarks on the condemned as they go by. Carlyle, in his "French Revolution," devotes one of his finest passages to this incident. The trial of the Girondists on the previous day had been arbitrarily cut short, and themselves summarily sentenced to death. One of the number, Valazé, had stabbed himself on hearing his doom; and another, Vergniaud, had secreted poison, but bravely determined to die with his comrades, who celebrated their last night on earth by a now historical supper. "But on the morrow," writes Carlyle, "all Paris is out; such a crowd as no man had seen. The death carts, Valazé's cold corpse stretched among the yet living Twenty-one, roll along. To the shouts of 'Vive la République,' some of them keep answering with counter-shouts of 'Vive la République.' Others, as Brissot, sit sunk in silence. At the foot of the scaffold they again strike up, with appropriate variations, the Hymn of the Marseillaise. Such an act of music; conceive it well! The yet living chant there; the chorus so rapidly wearing weak! Samson's axe is rapid; one head per minute, or little less. The chorus is wearing weak; the chorus is worn out—farewell forevermore, ye Girondins. Te Deum Fauchet has become silent; Valazé's dead head is lopped; the sickle of the Guillotine has reaped the Girondins all away. 'The eloquent, the young, the beautiful and brave!' exclaims Riouffe. O Death, what feast is toward in thy ghastly Halls!"

THE CHAPTER-HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

See page 170.



HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS were entertained at the Mansion House on Saturday. Mr. Gladstone's speech was rather tame in comparison to his usual fervid oratory. He referred to the "painful experience of Parliament in seeing the weapons intended for its own defence against external foes turned against itself by ungrateful or at least erring sons;" to the "temporary restraint of liberty in one of the three kingdoms" to which the Government had been compelled by a sense of paramount duty to resort; to the Land Bill, which, though standing nearly alone, might "leave not altogether unhonoured the history of the Session;" and finally to foreign affairs, in regard to which he was "thankful to believe that we had been travelling towards peace and tranquillity, and the promotion of general interests." Lord Hartington said that the history of the Session would be mainly the record of how one man had conducted a great measure through the House of Commons. There had been much waste of time and power, and he hoped that during the recess they might have both inclination and ability to devise the reforms necessary to restore the House to its ancient efficiency. Mr. Bright made a stirring speech. The legislative machine, though respectable and honorable, was old, and needed a thorough repair. No mere oiling would do. As to the Land Bill, it was as great and noble a measure as it would be possible for the English Parliament to pass, and in future years it would be felt that the Government had earnestly endeavoured to do right and justice to the inhabitants of the sister island.

THE MINISTERIAL WHITEBAIT DINNER at Greenwich is to take place on Wednesday next.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Her Majesty has signified her approval of the transfer of Mr. Courtney, M.P., from the Home Office to the Colonial Office as Under-Secretary, and the appointment of the Earl of Rosebery to the Under-Secretaryship at the Home Office.

"THE ENGLISH LAND QUESTION."—The Premier has promptly and properly, because humanely, refused to accede to the modest request made by Mr. Joseph Arch that Parliament should be convened for an Autumn Session in order to deal with the "English Land Question."

IRELAND.—The sudden and unexpected release of Mr. Dillon, M.P., on Sunday last, has caused some excitement and speculation as to whether the Government intend to release the other "suspects." The mystery was for a time sustained by the statements that no reason had been given for his liberation, and that his health was good—statements which, however, have been since explicitly contradicted, the fact being that his release is directly due to the report of Dr. Carte, the physician to Kilmainham Prison, to the effect that further detention would certainly endanger his life. He has been very quiet since his liberation, and it is said that he intends to refrain from active political work until his health is completely restored. Father Russell, of Cork County, has "interviewed" him, but failed to elicit anything very definite as to his intentions for the

future, or his opinions on the Land Bill. At the weekly meeting of the Dublin Land League, the members, although disappointed at his non-attendance, expressed their congratulations on his release; and the Irish party in London intend giving a public banquet in his honour.—Mr. Michael Davitt, the originator of the Land League, is still at Portland, where (to quote his own words in a recent letter to his sister) he is "subject once more to those favoured disciplinary conditions of life by which health, wealth, and wisdom are, at least proverbially, acquired, and in want of nothing that goes to the making up of sublimity happiness, except, among a few other trifles, those of liberty, the newspapers, and some one to speak to."—Miss Parnell is still actively engaged in attending meetings. At Dunwanway on Sunday, she said that the farmers would soon have the autumn rents as hostages for the good conduct of the landlords and the Government. She also read an alleged seditious song, for the singing of which a ballad-singer had been arrested, and defied the police to arrest her for doing so.—The New Ross Regatta, held on Monday in avowed celebration of the previous day appealed to the people the parish priests having on the previous day appealed to the people not to mark the anniversary of a murder by festivity.—An expedition of about twenty labourers, similar to that which went to Lough Mask last year to assist Captain Boycott, is now at Birdhill, Tipperary County, getting in the hay harvest on the farm of Dr. Twiss, who has been Boycotted for proceeding against some defaulting tenants. The members of the expedition are all armed with revolvers or repeating rifles, and an extra force of military and police has been drafted into the district.

FENIAN PLOTS AND RUMOURS.—The boy Hickie, who sent a threatening letter to Mr. Forster, has been convicted at the Central Criminal Court, and sentenced to fifteen months' hard labour. He pleaded that it was "all a joke," but the judge told him that juries could not be expected to look at such things in that light, and said that he only refrained from sending him to penal servitude on account of his youth (he is only eighteen years of age), and because he believed he had been misguided.—More Fenian alarms are reported from various parts of the country. From Woolwich an extremely doubtful story concerning a supposed attempt to blow up a Government magazine situated in Plumstead Marshes; from Luton an account of the finding on the steps of the Corn Exchange a box containing a black powder, "which would not explode when a light was applied," and a lump of hard white material, "like putty;" and from Dundee a report that an "infernal machine" had been discovered in a load of coals from Niddrie Colliery, destined for the Gasworks.—Fenian news from America is still more startling. At Chicago, an Irish Convention has agreed upon a scheme for the disintegration of the British Empire. Canada is to be annexed to the United States; the Australian and South African Colonies to be declared independent Republics; India to be "incited to resist taxation and an alien Government;" and the British Isles themselves to be associated in a Federation each enjoying Home Rule. How all this is to be effected is not stated, and it is somewhat comforting to be informed that the entire funds of the Society are to be devoted to advocating this scheme, and no more money spent on dynamite for the present. On this latter point, however, there has been a split amongst the delegates, the physical force faction seceding from the rest and holding a meeting of their own, at which it was determined to free Ireland by, amongst other means, desertion from the British army, the enlistment of patriots in the navy for the destruction of ironclads by dynamite, and the killing of objectionable members of the Royal Family and the House of Lords. A deputation of Chicago priests waited upon the Convention to urge them to desist from their plots; but the curt reply was that they had "assembled for business." One of the delegates, named West, was accused of being a spy in the pay of the British Government, but after some time was acquitted. Crowe is at Chicago, but is not attending the Convention. He says that the Skirmishing Fund has been squandered; one of the managers lent himself 7,000 dollars, 20,000 more were expended for useless torpedo boats, 2,000 to start an Irish paper in Scotland, and the remainder has gone nobody knows where. The latest telegrams convey the not unwelcome intelligence that the Convention is "demoralised by contending factions."

THE LONDON MUNICIPAL REFORM LEAGUE held a meeting last week (Mr. Stansfield, M.P., in the chair), at which resolutions were passed declaring that the whole of London ought to be governed by one municipal body elected by the ratepayers.

THE ROYAL REVIEW of the Scottish Volunteer Regiments on the 25th will, it is expected, be attended by about 38,000 of all ranks and arms. Officers have already been appointed to the command of the twelve brigades into which the troops will be divided.

A NEW FISH MARKET for North London is thought to be desirable by the Metropolitan Board of Works, who have instructed their engineer to seek a suitable site, and agreed to ask Parliament for its acquisition.

THE TRADES' GUILD OF LEARNING, the object of which is to promote lectures and classes for the instruction of the working-classes in the history and principles of various industries in order to encourage the desire for improved technical education, held a meeting on Monday under the presidency of the Earl of Rosebery, at which it was resolved to support the movement, and to invite the co-operation of trade societies and large employers of skilled labour in London.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC, which has been in a more or less languishing condition since Professor Pepper left it, is about to close its doors, the proprietors having resolved to wind up the Company. It is said that a project is on foot for making the building the central head-quarters of the temperance movement.

RAILWAY DISASTERS.—On Monday three railway collisions occurred, one at Rickmansworth, where a goods train ran into a passenger train, and a number of persons were severely bruised and shaken; another at Shaw, near Oldham, where two trains collided and both guards were badly hurt, the fireman and stoker scalded, and the passengers after being much shaken jumped from the train to find a part of it on fire; and a third, the most serious, at Blackburn, where an express ran into a train which was standing in the station, killing five passengers, and seriously injuring many others. The express was provided with the Westinghouse brake, the most efficient in existence, but the driver is stated not to have understood how to work it.

THE TREATMENT OF EMIGRANTS ON BOARD ATLANTIC STEAMERS, to which attention was recently called by a letter of Miss O'Brien, published in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has been made the subject of a Blue Book issued by the President of the Board of Trade. The investigation made by the Board is said to "entirely disprove" the lady's serious statements, so far as they embody any general charge against those concerned in the trade, and the Board therefore thinks that there is no need of urgent or exceptional remedies. As to the separation of the sexes, they think that the parting of husbands and wives would rather diminish than increase morality and decency, but they agree with Miss O'Brien that every emigrant ship carrying a certain number of single women should have a woman of character and experience in the position of matron. They also suggest certain improvements in the sanitary arrangements. They do not propose at present to ask Parliament for further powers, but it is their intention to call the attention of ship-owners to these particulars, in the hope that, as they have hitherto made many improvements over and above those required by the existing law, so they will not hesitate to take the further steps which existing circumstances appear to require.



THE House of Lords, having disposed of the Land Bill in Committee on Thursday and Friday in last week, returned on Monday to the task of completing the Bill with undiminished vigour. They had done in four nights what it took the House of Commons four months to accomplish. On Monday, in the course of two hours, they considered the Bill as amended on the stage of Report, and, suspending the Standing Orders, read it a third time. It cannot be said that there was any appearance of undue haste in their dealings with the measure. As the long list of amendments shows, they in many essential points remodelled the Bill, and have not passed over a single line without consideration. That this can be done without any scamping of the work brings into strong relief the delays that sap the energies of the House of Commons, and stop the whole Legislative machine. The House of Lords, having assembled to do certain work, set itself to its accomplishment in simple, practical fashion, impatient of and overcoming any tendencies that might exist in its august body towards dilatoriness.

What happened to Lord Carnarvon is an example of the strict business principles on which debate is conducted in the House of Lords. The Earl, who is by no means a despicable debater, had prepared an elaborate speech for the Second Reading. It had been arranged that this should be delivered at a particular hour on Tuesday night. But the speeches of other Peers lengthening out, it became evident that if Lord Carnarvon spoke the Second Reading must be adjourned, to the consequent loss of a day, and the upsetting of all arrangements. When it became a question of sacrificing the speech of a member of the House, or the convenience of the House itself, speech went without compunction—at least, on the part of the Lords. It was, perhaps, a little unkind of Lord Granville, when, on Monday night, Lord Carnarvon brought out his treasured manuscript, to raise his eyebrows with polite marvel that a speech evidently prepared for the Second Reading should be delivered on the Third. That this was the case every one knew; but something was surely due to the self-denial exercised by Lord Carnarvon on the previous Tuesday.

The Commons mustered in large numbers on Tuesday to receive the Bill in its amended form, and consider the Lords' amendments. The so-called "consideration" was, in its main sense, a euphemism. Consideration had undoubtedly been given to the Lords' amendments, but it was bestowed in Cabinet Council, and a decision arrived at that wherever they touched the principle of the Bill the House of Commons should be asked to disagree with them. On the other hand, with the desirable object of maintaining amity between the two Houses, it was decided that any little things which the Lords asked for, and which were of a nature to amuse them without hurting anybody else, should be gracefully conceded. On this basis the debate proceeded till the last amendment was reached, and the Bill was sent back to the Lords much in the form in which it reached them on Monday week.

In the position assumed by Mr. Gladstone he was more than usually invincible. There were two things to be done as each amendment came up. Either he must move to agree with it, with or without modification; or he must move to disagree with it. For the former case, in addition to the phalanx of faithful Ministerialists who follow Mr. Gladstone into any lobby his steps may lead him, Government had the solid vote of the Conservative party. In the latter case they had the united vote of the Liberal party, with such additions as Mr. Parnell was able to supply. Thus, whichever way he went, triumph preceded him. It was granted on the Conservative Benches that in these circumstances the Premier bore himself with moderation, and was anxious to concede to the Lords whatever was possible from his own point of view. The result was that there reigned throughout Tuesday night a quite unwonted air of repose. The Conservative Opposition, under the leadership of Sir Stafford Northcote, preserved the attitude it has maintained from the first—one of resolute opposition to proposals contrary to its principles, and of ready and courteous acceptance of the decision arrived at in the division lobby.

The orderliness of the debate was, it must be admitted, further contributed to by Mr. Parnell. The member for the City of Cork has a curious habit of occasionally, and indeed frequently, absenting himself from the House. In these circumstances there is a scramble among his followers for the leadership of the notable Party to which he has given a name. Sometimes it is Mr. Healy who comes to the front; sometimes Mr. Biggar; sometimes Mr. T. P. O'Connor, and, more particularly in Committee of Supply, Mr. A. O'Connor. These gentlemen feel it necessary to be unusually noisy, and, having no authority over their colleagues, the disorder which reigns in their ranks is communicated to the House. On the principle that it is more agreeable to swallow one pill than half-a-dozen, it is much better to have Mr. Parnell in his place than to find him absent. His command over his following is, as in the circumstances it should be, unquestioned. When he opens his mouth even Mr. Healy dare not speak. On personal grounds Mr. Parnell is much more acceptable than any of the personages whom he has placed at Westminster with opportunities of earning notoriety. Except on very rare occasions he preserves the demeanour and the speech of a gentleman. Thus the House of Commons is inclined to say that if it must have the Parnellites let it also have Mr. Parnell.

One other contribution to the quietude of the evening was found in the agreeably subdued condition of Lord Randolph Churchill. Till Tuesday night the noble lord had not been seen in the House since the previous Friday, when he received the memorable drubbing from Mr. George Russell, followed by the outpouring of Mr. Gladstone's scorn. For a whole week his familiar voice had been silent in the House, and it is curious evidence of the quickly recuperative power of the House of Commons that it had in that time almost forgotten his existence, and the wounds created by him had healed over. Now he was back in his accustomed seat below the gangway, in the inspiring company of Lord Elcho and Mr. Gorst. There were many opportunities for him to reintroduce himself to the notice of the House, had he so desired. But he sat all through the questions without once mentioning Tunis, and all through the debate without once rising and instructing the House on the question of the Land Bill, which he has so thoroughly at heart. He had come in obedience to the urgent summons of the Conservative Whip, and went out to all the divisions in favour of the Lords' amendments. But there seemed reason to hope that for this Session at least he had had enough of the House of Commons, a place in which Youth, Genius, and Modesty are evidently of no account.

The beginning and the end of the week were snatched from the Land Bill to consider such trifling circumstances as the votes in Supply. Monday night Mr. Mundella had to himself with the Education Estimates. The mode of procedure came as an apt and practical commentary on the remarks thrown out by the Premier at the Mansion House on Saturday on the subject of the necessity of reforming the rules of Parliamentary procedure. The House met as usual at four o'clock, the business of the evening being to vote certain colossal sums of money on account of Education. From that time till two o'clock in the morning, a clear space of ten hours, was occupied with talk. Of this time little more than a tenth was taken up by the Minister in the exposition of the important scheme

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about to be introduced by the Educational Department. The rest arose on miscellaneous amendments on going into Committee of Supply. Every one talked out, at two in the morning the House began its real business, which it had disposed of by a quarter-past three.



THE new play at DRURY LANE Theatre, entitled *Youth*, and officially described as "a sensational and domestic drama," bears a close resemblance to those long rambling pieces full of startling incidents and strange pictures of life which were wont to be provided for the entertainment of visitors at the Victoria Theatre, before that home of melodrama was converted into a Music Hall. It purports to tell a story of the present day; but its personages and their doings belong rather to the imaginary world of the fiction-writers in the penny popular journals than to anything of a more real kind. One of its authors, Mr. Paul Meritt, indeed served an apprenticeship to the stage as a manufacturer of dramas of this sort for the suburban theatres, and the habits thus acquired have apparently not forsaken him. As private soldiers in this piece wrangle with colonels when on duty, and address to them with impunity insolent speeches in the presence of their comrades, it need surprise none to learn that a captain with equal impunity tells his superior officer on the field of battle with a coarse oath that in future he "may go and sit in a corner and eat his mess by himself." The pictures of military life are, however, certainly not more eccentric than the views of the habits of the clergy. Thus we have a middle-aged vicar of a rural parish, a father of a family and a man of staid air and imposing presence, who appears to consider it a praiseworthy trait in his own character that he has ruined, betrayed, abandoned, and then treated with haughty insolence a lady who has been weak enough to yield to his evil solicitations. The Reverend Joseph Darlington, Vicar of Beechley, does not even scruple to hold up his own example in this respect to the eyes of a scapgrace son, as one in every way worthy of imitation. "I left," he says, "the woman who would have been a mill-stone about my neck, without the slightest hesitation." This naively profligate clergyman of the Church of England does more than this. Years have rolled by, and his victim desiring to devote her life to retirement and penitence in her native village, she is simply desired by her betrayer, in a style of cold-hearted insolence, and with all the airs of conscious moral worth, to betake herself elsewhere. Yet the Vicar does not appear to be intended by the authors to be regarded with abhorrence, and he even figures among the personages who at the end of the play come in for a share in the general distribution of happiness. By one of those strange accidents which within lawful limits are permissible on the stage, we are to suppose that Mrs. Walsingham (such is the lady's name) has never discovered that her old acquaintance is the incumbent of the church of the very parish to which she has returned, and is even the landlord of the very cottage which she desires to inhabit. It is in the village churchyard, after service, that these twain meet again; and as the wrath of Mrs. Walsingham is great, and she is clearly a vindictive person, it might perhaps be expected that exposure of the reverend gentleman's heartless and irritating conduct would immediately follow. But not so. Mrs. Walsingham, though we learn that the heyday of her youth has been succeeded by penitence and propriety, has still a passion for circuitous modes of vengeance. She determines, therefore, only to strike the Vicar who has injured her so deeply through his son, Ensign Darlington, who has never injured her at all; and to accomplish this end she incites a wicked lady called Eve de Malvoisie to bring her fascinations to bear upon him. This the syren accordingly does, until Frank Darlington, forgetting his engagement with his little cousin Alice Wenlock, marries her, and goes into lodgings of a sumptuous kind. The young gentleman having behaved thus honourably, and having also indulgently paid his wife's extravagant milliner's bills, there is no apparent reason why the lady should desire to injure him; but she, nevertheless, conspires with Mrs. Walsingham and a wicked Major, her accomplice, to bring against her husband a totally false, and, we may add, a wholly incomprehensible, charge of forgery, on which he is convicted, and sentenced to penal servitude. The wicked Major's chief motive, we may observe, appears to be jealousy of his victim's place in the affections of his little cousin, for whom, with the strange inconsistency of suburban melodramatists, this heartless scoundrel is represented as nourishing a pure and ardent passion; but as Frank has already settled that matter by marrying the syren, the Major's hatred is really inexplicable. These silly conceptions, however, serve the authors' chief purpose, which is manifestly that of affording the scenic artists, the machinists, and the stage carpenters opportunities for the exercise of their indispensable talents. They yield, at least, excuses for presenting a view of the Thames and a boating cottage, where, as in Mr. Boucicault's *Formosa*, the weak-minded hero spends his time in amorous dalliance, and they bring us of necessity to the interior of Frank's lodgings, which are of imposing dimensions, and are provided with furniture by a well-known firm whose name is mentioned in the playbill. More important still, as Frank Darlington secures a ticket-of-leave in consequence of his gallant conduct in protecting a prison warder from the murderous attack of a fellow-convict, and thereupon enlists in the army, the story furnishes excuse for the scenes called "The Departure of the Troop Ship" and "The Defence of Hawk's Point." If it be conceded that the drama has come to so low an ebb that mere scenery and stage mechanism will make a play fitted to be presented on the historic stage of Drury Lane, something may be said for Messrs. Paul Meritt and Harris's new piece; though even then complaint might justly be made of the absurd incidents, the improbable personages, and the vulgar, pointless dialogue with which this contemptible production is so superabundantly provided. We believe, however, that even audiences of the simple class who have a robust appetite for melodrama like, in these days, to find the scenes of thrilling excitement associated with a story of a more intelligible and interesting kind than they are supplied with on this occasion. The similar piece, called *The World*, produced on the same stage last year, was popular, certainly not more on account of its picturesque scenery than of its story, which, though of the melodramatic kind, aiming rather at exciting wonderment and curiosity than at literary excellence, was really an interesting piece in its way. The new play is divided into eight tableaux, which are substantially eight acts. Its scenery is in some respects worthy of high praise, though the stage contrivances at Drury Lane are not quite up to the level of modern scenic art. Flat "wings," which deceive no eye; and rude "sky borders," with their too obvious "solutions of continuity," and exposed grooves and "flies," here still flourish, though practically abolished in the best theatres, both in England and on the Continent. When the panoramic scene of the view of the Thames changes to the boatman's cottage, a wing, on which is painted what appears to be a hemlock plant of tropical growth, survives all change, to the destruction of the illusion. But if gaudiness and confusion rather than true Art are the characteristics of some of the scenes, praise is unquestionably due to Mr. Julian Hicks and the stage management for the fine scene of the embarkation of the

troops on board the large steam vessel; and not less to Mr. Emden for the one really poetical scene of the play—the encampment of British troops among the mountains of the eastern frontier of Afghanistan, where, moreover, the assault of the armed hillsmen, and their final repulse, are managed with an eye to the picturesque that could hardly be more successful. The Drury Lane company is strong in names, but a play of this kind affords but little opportunity of distinguishing themselves, even to the best players. Mr. Augustus Harris—though a very spirited and acceptable representative of young heroes—cannot inspire much interest in so weak and foolish a creature as Frank Darlington; Miss Litton can only look handsome in the part of the wicked De Malvoisie; and that usually impressive actor, Mr. Vernon, labours in vain to give a semblance of reality to the diabolically wicked Major. A similar remark may be applied to the performance of Miss Caroline Hill as a pert boy officer; of Mr. Arthur Matthison as a severe Major; of Mr. John Ryder as the abominable Vicar; of Miss Louise Willes as the penitent, but still actively wicked Mrs. Walsingham; of Mrs. Billington as the Vicar's wife; and of Miss Cresswell as the little cousin, to whom, after all his escapades and persecutions, Frank Darlington is finally united—the discovery that his wicked first wife had committed bigamy having opportunely left him free for that purpose.

An amateur performance does not often present so many interesting features as that which was given, by special permission of Her Majesty, in the Great Hall at Hampton Court Palace on Friday afternoon, for the benefit of the Convalescent Home for Women, which the Princess Frederica of Hanover is so disinterestedly labouring to establish in that neighbourhood. We will, however, reserve a detailed account until next week, when we hope to publish an illustration of the performance.

Two new comedies were produced at afternoon benefit performances last week, though unfortunately without revealing much indication of promise. The first, a three-act piece by Mr. H. Williamson, entitled *Estranged*, and brought out at the GLOBE Theatre on Wednesday, presents no fresher theme than the separation of a husband and wife from motives of jealousy, which subsequently proving to be groundless, they are brought together again in the third act. The other piece, a less ambitious production by Mr. W. Ellis, entitled *Major and Miner*, was produced at the OLYMPIC on Saturday. It is in two acts, and sets forth the retribution which follows upon a working miner who had risen to affluence by concealing from his master a valuable discovery of ore on his estate, and then purchasing the property for a trifling sum. In each of the plays referred to the dialogue was rather weak; and the characters and incidents were wanting in truth and freshness.

An "Autumn Season," under the management of Mr. C. Francis, opened on Saturday at the HAYMARKET, where, to quote the play-bill, *Gibraltar*, a "new and original" opera bouffe, "founded on *La Reine des Halles*," was produced. How a piece can be a new and original, and yet "founded" on something else, it is not easy to perceive. The music is spasmodically inconsequential, and bears a sort of tuneless likeness to many things we have heard before. The plot is confused, as is natural in pieces of this kind, but we shall not attempt to unravel it. There is, however, some fun in the dialogue, which enables one to pardon its occasional vulgarity. There is the usual fire-eating military hero, really well-played, as things go, by Mr. John Howson, whose exertions materially help to make the piece amusing. Miss Emily Thorne is a realistic fish-vendor, whilst Miss Kathleen Corri and Mr. C. W. Garthorne make the most of their not very attractive parts. The scenery is bright, the dresses pretty; and the dancing, introduced at one or two points, of the Misses Elliott, Miss Wright, and Miss Lee, help in a great degree to relieve the somewhat pointless story of the piece. The opera is preceded by *The Little Treasure*, a two-act comedy, in which Miss Rose Doré, Miss Florence Wade, and Mr. C. W. Garthorne fairly distinguish themselves, Miss Wade showing some naturalness and power in the pathetic passages.

WHAT IS MURDER?—The trial of the man Nash, who now lies under sentence of death for the murder of the six persons who perished in the recent fire at Notting Hill, is chiefly remarkable for the extraordinary defence set up on his behalf, and for the expressed intention of his counsel to apply for a writ of error on the contention that the verdict of "Guilty" as given by the jury, being coupled with a recommendation to mercy on the ground that they considered he did not intend to take life, amounted in effect to an acquittal. It will be remembered that the charge against Nash and his female fellow-prisoner, though nominally that of murder, was really that of arson, and the defending counsel rested his plea upon the absence of any expressed malice or intention to kill. The judge, however, refused to reserve the point for the Court of Criminal Appeal, and there can be little doubt that his interpretation of the law will be found to be correct. The man who deliberately sets fire to a house in which others besides himself reside, like he who scuttles a ship, or commits a violent assault while engaged in the acts of burglary or highway robbery, may have no actual intention of taking life, but he must be presumed to be aware of the possible and probable consequences of such conduct, and the law therefore very justly holds him responsible for murder if death unfortunately results. The gist of the whole matter lies in the fact of the accused person having been engaged in a felonious action reckless of its possible fatal consequences, although he may have had no special desire to kill any particular persons; and the jury in this very case seem to have appreciated this point by acquitting the woman, who was shown to have done her best to warn the inmates to escape, and convicting the man, who it was alleged made no effort in that direction. The recommendation to mercy has been forwarded to the proper quarter, and it is possible that some considerations may be urged upon the Home Secretary, which may lead him to regard the case as one in which a respite or reprieve may properly be ordered. If, however, this should not be the case we shall neither be surprised nor grieved, for it seems impossible to imagine a more dastardly and revolting crime than that of which Nash has been convicted. If there be no flaw in the evidence he was utterly careless how many lives he imperilled or sacrificed, his sole motive being the mean and sordid one of cheating the Insurance Company of a paltry sum of money. In this respect he stands even lower in the scale of iniquity than the Fenian and Nihilist murderers, who can at least claim that they are not prompted to their abominable schemes by the hope of personal reward or advantage, but are inspired by what they hold to be patriotic motives.

A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY is to be erected at Newark in Nottinghamshire, the gift of Mr. Gilstrap to his native town. The building will be handed over to the Corporation, furnished, stocked with books, and endowed for the maintenance of a custodian.

LONDON MORTALITY has increased and decreased respectively during the two last weeks, 2,000 and 1,717 deaths have been registered against 1,943 during the previous seven days, being 267 and 30 above the average, and at the rate of 27.2 and 23.4 per 1,000. There were 495 and 533 deaths from diarrhoea, 39 and 38 from small-pox, 63 and 60 from measles, 46 and 45 from scarlet fever, 18 and 4 from diphtheria, 41 and 22 from whooping-cough, 10 and 10 from enteric fever. During the week before last 3 deaths of children and 3 adults were referred to sunstroke. There were 2,755 and 2,242 births registered, being 224 above and 278 below the average. The mean temperature of the air last week was 63.8 deg.



BELLES AT AMERICAN WATERING-PLACES now carry huge bouquets of roses when out walking, so as to present a flower to each friend they meet.

THE PARIS LOUVRE has acquired a splendid collection of Chaldean antiquities, including eight statues covered with inscriptions in old Babylonian characters.

A NOVEL BY KING OSCAR OF SWEDEN, "*Le Château de Kronberg*," is being eagerly awaited by Swedish literary circles. The work is to be published in Swedish and German, and is said to be admirably written.

A FOX-HUNTING PIG is owned by a Transatlantic farmer in Connecticut. Whenever Piggy hears the hounds he manages to escape, and join in the sport, generally outstripping the pack and securing the lion's share of the fox before the rest of the hunt can arrive.

THE SUNDAY SOCIETY invited the foreign members of the International Medical Congress last Sunday to inspect the Duke of Wellington's Art Collections at Apsley House, and the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. Some of the members also visited the galleries at Hampton Court and Greenwich, and the National Museum at Kew.

YOUTHFUL BRITONS ON GUY FAWKES' DAY are prone to meet with mishaps in their firework experiments, but their risks are small compared to the dangers incurred by American lads during the Fourth of July festivities. Then it is the delight of every patriotic youth to fire off a pistol, and this year no fewer than fourteen children have died in Baltimore from the explosion of toy pistols on the glorious Fourth.

THE FASCINATING EFFECT OF MUSIC UPON SNAKES was unpleasantly experienced recently by a British regiment at a small station in the Deccan. As the soldiers were returning from church the strains of the band attracted a huge cobra, which with its head erect and hood expanded, completely barred the passage. The men were fairly panic-stricken until a courageous sergeant skillfully cleft the reptile in two.

THE NEW EXTENSION BUILDINGS OF THE BROMPTON CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL are fast approaching completion, and some portion will, it is hoped, be available for use before the winter. Already 55,737. have been paid on account of the contracts, and the Committee now appeal to the benevolent for help towards supplying the additional annual income of 10,000., which will be required to maintain this great and long-needed extension.

THE WHITBY LIFE BUOY, recently illustrated in these pages, was subjected to a series of trials on Friday last week, before the Prince of Wales, who, with other members of the Royal Family, viewed the experiments from the deck of the *Osborne*, and expressed great satisfaction with the invention. The trials, which took place both by day and night, were directed by Captain Lord Charles Beresford, who has had considerable experience of life buoys.

STEERING BY ELECTRICITY has been tried on a Scotch vessel, according to *Engineering*, with the object of dispensing with a helmsman, and making the compass itself guide the ship. Thus the compass-card is fitted with an index set to the true course, and one degree on either side of the true course two metal contact pins are adjusted. Each pin is connected with a single Daniell cell, and when the ship deviates so much as a degree from her course, the index comes in contact with one pin or the other, causing a positive or negative current to flow, and to act upon a hydraulic apparatus which works the helm.

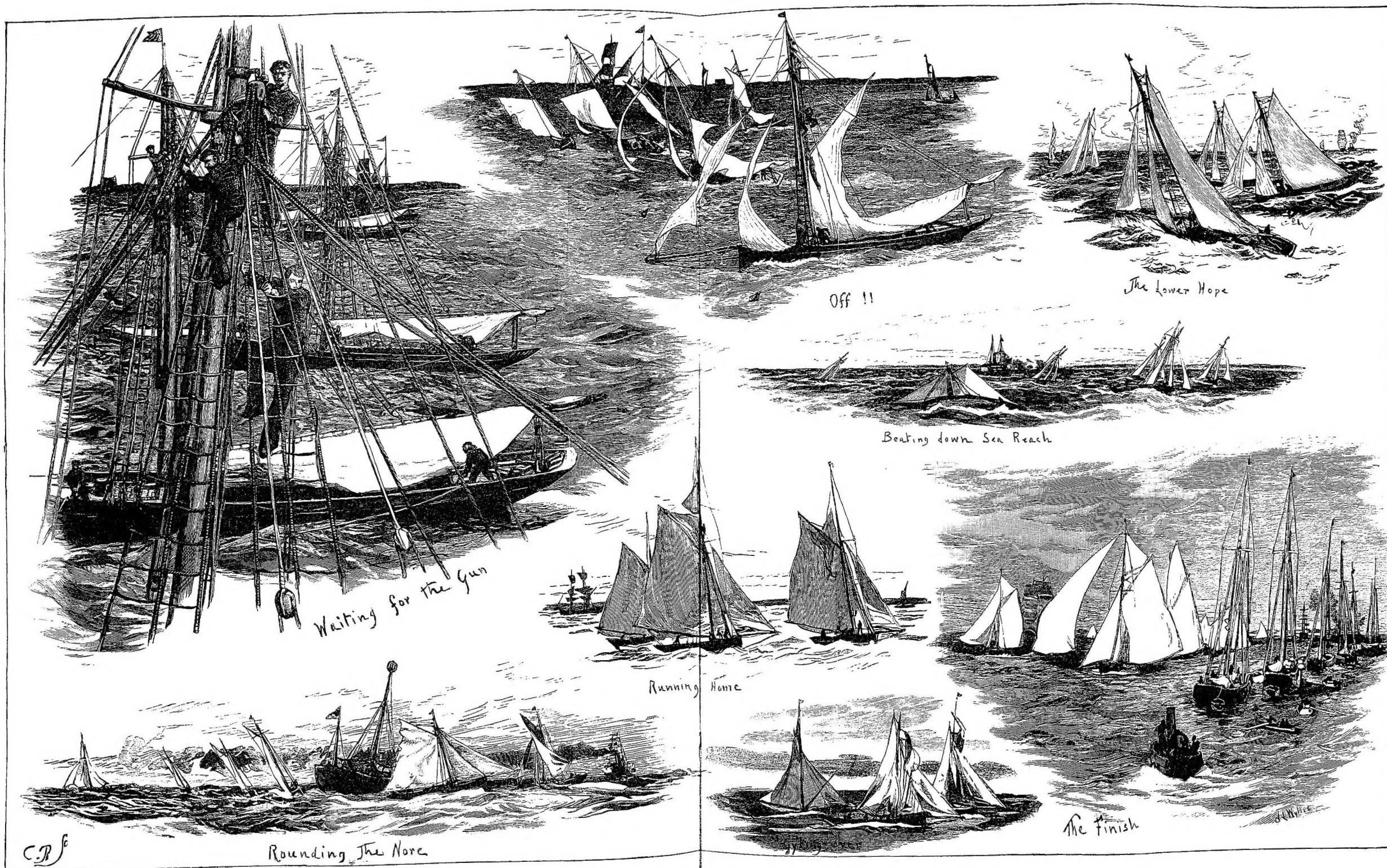
THE ROMAN PANTHEON is being freed from the small modern houses clustered against its walls so as to afford a better view of the building. The shops on the right-hand side have already been pulled down, and the houses at the back will shortly follow, while a few will also be demolished on the left side of the Piazza, to make a larger and more regular open space in front of the monument. The improvement is said to be already noticeable, the building gaining much by its circular shape being more defined, while the demolition has laid bare the walls which once connected the Pantheon with the Baths of Agrippa.

HERR RUBINSTEIN'S DIGNITY was severely shaken during his recent tour in Switzerland. On entering Canton Valais he was obliged to provide himself with a "license for itinerant artisans and artists" before he could give a single concert, the eminent pianist finding himself included amongst such "itinerant artisans" as "strolling players, actors, singers, musicians, photographers, circus-riders, menageries, and other exhibitions of art and curiosities." This remarkable document allowed him to exercise his profession for a month, on condition of the license being *visé* by the police before each performance, while the margin contained a full description of his personal appearance, so that he might be identified by the authorities in case of necessity.

A CONGRESS OF CIGAR-TIP COLLECTORS has lately been held at Bonn. Although collecting the remnants of old cigars is no novelty, being one of the regular Parisian industries, the practice is carried on throughout North Germany in a curiously systematic manner, and the proceeds are strictly devoted to charitable purposes. There are twenty-six associations, and the ten chief societies, such as Cologne, Bonn, Düsseldorf, &c., number 1,602 members, who within a few months have collected over 30,000 lbs. of cigar-tips, yielding a profit of 1,273. Most of the money has been spent upon outfits for poor children. Collecting boxes are put up in the streets to obtain public assistance, and the associations intend to bring out a journal to report their doings and to attract further members.

CAPTAIN EAD'S SHIP RAILWAY ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA will be virtually commenced at the close of the rainy season in the autumn, by the construction of an auxiliary railway from a point on the Coatzacoalcos river, thirty-five miles from its mouth, to the Upper Lagoon on the Pacific side of the Isthmus. A competitor is, however, already in the field, the Mexican Government having granted a concession for a railway on the other side of the river, ten miles of which are finished. The Eads line is forty miles the shorter of the two, but the lagoon at which it terminates on the Pacific side requires dredging to fit it for a harbour, while the thirty-five miles of river navigation at the Atlantic end place it at a further disadvantage compared with its rival, which begins at the mouth of the river.

A SINGULAR NO-MAN'S LAND exists on the borders of Belgium and Prussia, near Verviers, the village of Moresnet, now possessing 3,000 inhabitants, and some rich zinc mines. During the division of territory between Prussia and the Netherlands, at the Congress of Vienna, Moresnet was accidentally overlooked, and as subsequently neither country would waive claim to the place it was settled that the district should be jointly administered, but that neither Power should militarily occupy the village. Although Belgium has replaced the Netherlands, Moresnet, the *St. James' Gazette* tells us, remains in much the same condition, paying very small taxes, and being governed alternately by a Prussian and a Belgian burgomaster, while the young men serve in the army of either nation, according to their origin, and law-suits may be decided by the tribunals of either kingdom.



YACHTING—A CUTTER MATCH ON THE THAMES



FRANCE.—M. Gambetta's profession of faith, outlined at Tours, and which will be filled up shortly at Belleville, is much what had been expected, although it has disappointed many by its inconsistency with former declarations. Politicians are, however, proverbially gifted with conveniently short memories, and M. Gambetta has been too deeply stung by the Senate's rejection of *Scrutin de liste* to repeat the warm defence of the Upper House uttered at Cahors. He desires a revision of the Senate, not its abolition, objecting both to the principle of Life Senators and to the manner of their election; and maintains that, by a different method of proceeding, the Upper House would exist in perfect harmony with the Lower—i.e., would be completely obedient to the Republican majority in the Chamber. Further, he condemns the vacillation of the majorities in the recent Chamber, which endangered every Ministry; and advocates the formation of a strong cohesive ministerial majority which should not be swayed by each breath of public opinion. The necessity of free, secular, and purely Democratic education, of improved taxation, and of less solicitation in the Governmental system, are the other salient points of the speech, many polite things being said of M. Grévy, of the Ferry Ministry, and of the progress and attitude of France, whose destinies are safe, and "who needs no war-cry." Altogether, the Tours visit was by no means so successful as the triumphal progress at Cahors, the reception, though cordial, not being enthusiastic. All attention is now turned to the attitude of Belleville, where M. Gambetta was to attend a private conference last (Friday) night, and will speak at a monster meeting on Tuesday. He intends to stand for both divisions of the constituency, and, indeed, could hardly do otherwise without losing *prestige*, and abandoning his Opportunist policy. The extreme Radicals, however, have brought forward two Opposition candidates, who ingeniously adopt M. Gambetta's famous advanced programme of 1869, thus strikingly illustrating the change in his opinions. It remains to be seen whether they will be more successful than M. Félix Pyat, of Communistic fame, who was hunted out of a Radical meeting by cries of "Traitor!" and "Coward!" Meanwhile, M. Ferry, like his rival, has somewhat moderated his opinions, and in a speech at Epinal alleges that there is not so much difference after all between the shades of Republicans—"patient" and "eager" men, as he styles the respective followers of himself and M. Gambetta, but that the union of the Republicans is, after all, the most necessary thing. He also spoke at Nancy, but his discourse was unimportant, and chiefly dealt with the anxieties and troubles entailed by power and public life. The Minister seems to be trimming his sails to meet a change of wind, and his non-revision opinions are warmly supported by a fair portion of the Press, including the *Débats*. Moderation is the prevailing characteristic of the hour, and comparative indifference continues to be manifested by the great majority of voters. At the last election they were not so apathetic. Then the choice lay between a Republican and Conservative Chamber, now the Bonapartists have lost their chief, the Monarchists are weak, and the triumph of the Republicans is a foregone conclusion, the only struggle lying between the different grades of Republicanism. The candidates are busy enough, but there are little outward signs of preparation, and Paris is curiously free from the masses of political placards usually visible on these occasions. Another famous Bonapartist, Baron Haussmann, wishes to retire from public life, and does not intend to stand unless obliged, while on the other side the ultra-Radicals are promising the most sweeping and extravagant reforms in order to obtain a seat.

Home affairs proving of such paramount importance, the interest in North African matters has considerably subsided, and there is little news from Tunis, where the Arabs continue their marauding raids with great vigour, and have done great damage to the railway. Probably a native gendarmerie will be formed, while the French military authorities kindly offer to reorganise the Tunisian troops. Altogether, notwithstanding the denials of the French officials, the country seems most disturbed, and refugees are going to Malta from Sfax, where, by the by, General Logerot declares that the French soldiers are perfectly innocent of the attack on the European quarter, all the pillage being due to Arabs. His opinion, however, has been warmly challenged by an Anglo-Italian Commission constituted to report on the subject. The Tunisian religious authorities have considerably impressed their fellow-believers by the declaration that those killed at Sfax were not carrying on a holy war, and will not, therefore, enter Paradise. Over 3,000 French now occupy Goletta, and the Bey has received the officers of the fleet stationed there with the utmost effusion. In Algeria Bou Amama remains quiet at present, but it is rumoured that the younger son of Abd-el-Kader is expected this autumn, in order to direct the insurrection on the western frontiers.

Returning to Paris, the French capital is more lively than usual in the dead season, owing to the Electrical Exhibition at the Palais de l'Industrie, which opened on Thursday in the usual incomplete state of Exhibitions on the day of inauguration. Indeed, the Commissioners did not get possession of the building till so late that it was impossible to be ready in time, so that of the two divisions of the Exhibitions, the first containing all that relates to electric lighting, and the second the other apparatus of electricity, only the latter is complete. As yet the English division has not one steam-engine, and cannot show a single electric light for some days. All will soon be straight, however, and the effect of the ground floor lighted simultaneously by all the competing electric systems is expected to be dazzling. Upstairs each of the twenty-eight rooms will be lighted by a different system. M. Grévy visited the collection on the previous day, before leaving for the Jura, and a grand official banquet was given in the evening to the Foreign Commissioners. The President has also bidden farewell to the outgoing American Minister, General Noyes, with the most friendly assurances of the good relations between the two countries. Distributions of prizes and M. Renan's admirable discourse on the Prie de Vertu at the Académie complete the sum of Paris gossip.—Shocks of earthquake have occurred at Allevard, near Grenoble.

AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.—Turkey has been refused further delay for the evacuation of the ceded territory to Greece, which must be completed by September 14th, the Greek Government declaring that the province is most dangerously unsettled owing to the change of rule. The direct convention between Greece and Turkey respecting the frontier has now been formally ratified at Constantinople, but in the ceded district itself the Porte is still putting obstacles in the way of the Delimitation Commissioners, and the Ministers of the Powers have made strong representations on the subject. Altogether the Porte is being considerably pressed just now, as Lord Dufferin persistently urges the immediate consideration of reforms in Armenia, while the Turkish Government endeavours to stave off the evil day on the plea of being in the fast month of Ramadan. The first step would be the appointment of a superior class of officials so as in some measure to avoid corruption. Meanwhile the British Ambassador appears to be on very cordial terms with the Porte. Matters are proceeding better on the Eastern Roumelian frontier, where sixteen Pomak villages have been handed over by the Porte according

to the provisions of the Berlin Treaty, while as soon as the Turco-Bulgarian frontier is rectified the Porte proposes to claim the arrears of the Bulgarian tribute.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.—The Emperors of Germany and Austria duly met last week at Gastein, and their warm greetings have as usual been made great capital of by the press of the two countries. No Ministers were present, and the two Sovereigns spent the day in the quietest manner, but both Germans and Austrians persist in attributing great importance to the meeting, followed as it has been by the visit of the Emperor Francis Joseph to the King of Württemberg and the Grand Duke of Baden on the Lake of Constance. The Berlin journals in particular speak proudly of the stance. The Berlin journals in particular speak proudly of the Austro-German alliance, on which, "sealed anew by their Sovereigns' meeting, rests the peace of Europe." They, moreover, hint that the object of the meeting of the Austrian, Baden, and Württemberg rulers was to discuss the Brunswick succession and the assumption of the dignity of King by the Grand Duke of Baden on his coming Silver Wedding. The Emperor of Austria has now gone to Munich to see his daughter, after inspecting the Vorarlberg Tunnel; while the German Emperor has left Gastein for Coblenz, to visit the Empress on his way to Ems.

An important step towards the conciliation of the Vatican has been taken by the Government in the appointment of Dr. Korum as Bishop of Trèves, which has created great surprise and some dissatisfaction among the Liberals. In many ways the German Government is assuming a far more lenient attitude towards the Clericals, how far with a view to conciliating them during the coming elections it would be difficult to say. The present arrangement has been kept a most profound secret.—Two ironclad steamers which had just been completed at Kiel have been seized by the Government on suspicion of their being intended for unlawful purposes, apparently as war vessels for Chili. This high-handed act has caused considerable excitement at Kiel, where the Government is much condemned, as it is considered that such proceedings will injure the German shipbuilding industry.—There seems little prospect of the anti-Semitic agitation being quelled, for fresh disturbances have broken out in Pomerania, as well as at Jastrow, in Prussia, and although the authorities seem at last to have seriously taken up the matter, the hatred is too widely spread to be easily quelled.

RUSSIA.—The Imperial tour has ended safely, the most elaborate precautions for the Czar's protection having been taken throughout. The Emperor's movements were kept secret to the very last, and then confided to only a few officials, while merely the scantiest details of his progress were allowed to be published. He appears, however, to have been very warmly received, notwithstanding the surprise felt in Moscow at his arrival, which, it is reported, was due after all to the discovery of an elaborate conspiracy to assassinate the whole Imperial family at Peterhof by night. Some alarm is now being felt owing to a belief among the peasantry that the land is to be redistributed, and transferred from the proprietors to themselves. The clergy have been specially instructed to discourage all such ideas of equality, but the peasantry are just now highly dissatisfied, owing to the prevailing distress in the country. Fortunately the harvest still promises well.—As in Germany, the anti-Jewish riots have been renewed, and incendiarism and pillage have been rife; while at Neijin last week there was considerable loss of life, owing to the soldiers firing on the mob.

Lord Hartington's declaration in the House of Commons respecting Russia and Central Asia has drawn down some sharp comments from the St. Petersburg Press. The *Moscow Gazette* declares that Russia has given way to England in the most humiliating manner, and complains of the revolutionary meetings in London against Russia, but the *Journal de St. Petersburg* justifies the course of the British Government, pointing out that England intends no injury to Russia by permitting the Socialist meetings, and that it is unnecessary to stir up the hatred of the Russian population.

ITALY.—Rome has not yet calmed down from her excitement respecting the recent disturbance over the body of Pius IX., and, as had been foreseen, the present Pope has seized the opportunity to air afresh the theory of the Prisoner of the Vatican. His recent allocation is couched in the most indignant terms, and he asks bitterly whether the reception of the ashes of a dead Pope does not foreshadow what would happen if a living Pope left his "prison," and passed through the streets of Rome. Pope Leo is, by the way, said to be far from well, and a report has been spread by the *Diritto* that he intended to quit Rome altogether, and to take up his residence at Malta. The journal states that His Holiness has communicated his intention to several Foreign Powers, and has summoned the Cardinals to Rome for consultation. This assertion has been warmly denied in some quarters, but is generally believed to have some foundation. On their side, the Liberals have held a large meeting in favour of the abrogation of the Papal Law of Guarantees, when they ingeniously succeeded in fully expressing their opinions notwithstanding the efforts of the police. All newspapers reporting one of the speeches alluding offensively to the Pope have been seized, and an attempt to get up a public demonstration on the subject was at once quelled.

INDIA.—No further fighting has yet taken place in Afghanistan, but Ayoub Khan is vigorously preparing for an advance on Cabul. Ayoub, however, has somewhat untrustworthy adherents to deal with, for reports state that one of the regiments which deserted to him from the Ameer has once more recanted and gone off to Kelat; while it has been found necessary to disband a second, and to distribute the other Cabuli regiments amongst his own infantry. He is, moreover, short of arms and ammunition, and it is said that many of his chiefs are decidedly disaffected. Fuller accounts of the battle of Kareez-i-Atta show that Ayoub's success was entirely due to the defection of the Ameer's troops, for the right wing of his own army had been completely routed when the arrival of the new-comers turned the scale. The fugitives did not rejoin for four days; while another portion of the army, thinking defeat certain, plundered Ayoub's baggage. Thus, should Ayoub fail in his next attempt, he can only reckon on a few followers, as the bulk of his army will inevitably go over to the winning side. Meanwhile he is receiving the homage of the Duranis round Candahar, and has caused much bad feeling by the appointment of the new Governor, the Sartip considering he had a prior right to the post. The Ameer's Governor of Candahar, Shamsuddin Khan, suffered grievously on Ayoub's entry into the city. Having taken sanctuary in a shrine, he was promised pardon; but, on leaving his refuge, was flung down on to the pavement of the Durbar Hall, an arm and leg being broken. Meanwhile Abdurrahman gives no sign of movement, although his general, Gholam Hyder, holds Kelat with a considerable force, much to the disappointment of Ayoub, who sent out a small contingent to take the place, thinking it deserted. At present the country seems fairly quiet; but it is stated that the Indian Government have prepared a strong brigade ready to despatch to Quetta in case of need. An envoy from the Ameer has arrived at Simla, bearing, it is said, a letter reminding the Viceroy that he begged the English to keep Candahar for a year, until Abdurrahman felt his position secure. This was written before the late battle, and is therefore all the more significant.

There is little news from INDIA proper. Rain is sadly wanted in Mysore, where the prospects are very gloomy. The crops promise well in other parts of the country.

UNITED STATES.—President Garfield has had another slight relapse owing to another operation being necessary to obtain a fresh

channel for the discharge of pus. He bore the operation well, and has since gone on favourably, although much affected by the intense heat, which was so great in New York on Saturday as to occasion sixty-eight deaths. Similar heat and storms extended over a large portion of the country, causing much suffering, and in South Carolina sixteen labourers were struck by lightning, four being killed.—The Fenian agitation in the States is causing much excitement, but as the subject is treated in another column, we need only mention that the Americans are very bitter against the Government for their sympathy with England.—The famous Sioux chief, Spotted Tail, has been murdered by the chief of the Indian Reservation Police, himself a Redskin.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The Transvaal was formally handed over to the Boers on Tuesday, and the Boer Government issued a proclamation to the people announcing the establishment of the South African Republic. The transfer was effected most quietly, the new officials, including the Boer State Secretary, Mr. Bok, were at once sworn in, and the native chiefs dispersed in a very orderly manner, through expressing their dissatisfaction with the labours of the Royal Commission. All the members of the Commission have now left, Sir Evelyn Wood going back to Natal, and Sir H. Robinson to Cape Town.

In Zululand, Sitimela's claim to the chieftainship has been virtually disposed of, John Dunn having inflicted a serious defeat on his followers, while the chief's fate is not known. Another piece of good news is the surrender of the well-known Kafir chief Kreli, who has been in hiding ever since his defeat in 1879. Meanwhile the Government have released Secoceni.

MISCELLANEOUS.—SWITZERLAND has experienced another earthquake at Geneva. The unusual drought is causing great distress. Only a few thundershowers have fallen for the last two months, water is scarce, the grass burnt up, and many of the cattle are perishing.—The King and Queen of SPAIN are making a triumphal progress through Galicia.—In CANADA the Marquis of Lorne has left Winnipeg for the Rocky Mountains, and after a journey of 2,000 miles will return to Ottawa in October *via* Chicago.—NEW SOUTH WALES is much alarmed about the small-pox, several cases having occurred at Sydney, and has brought in an Anti-Chinese Bill.—In VICTORIA the New Ministry is busy with finance measures, proposing a loan and amendment of the land tax.—In SOUTH AUSTRALIA the Adelaide Exhibition has been inaugurated by a religious service; and in QUEENSLAND the authorities have executed the murderers of Lieutenant Bower and the crew of the *Sandfly*.



THE Isle of Wight continues to be the home of the chief members of the Royal Family, who have been joining in the various yachting festivities. Her Majesty gave a large family dinner party on Saturday in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh's thirty-seventh birthday, having previously walked over with the Princesses Louise and Beatrice to Osborne Cottage, where the Duke and Duchess are staying with their children, in order to congratulate her son on the anniversary. During the day the Queen also received Professor Busch, of Bonn. On Sunday morning Canon Prothero performed Divine Service at Osborne, before Her Majesty and the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, and in the evening Lord Northbrook and Sir H. and Lady Ponsonby joined the Royal party at dinner. Next day Mr. Ralph Disraeli had audience of the Queen to deliver up the badge of the Order of the Garter, worn by his brother the late Earl, while subsequently Her Majesty decorated Lance-Corporal Farmer, of the Army Hospital Corps, with the Victoria Cross, for his gallantry in assisting the wounded at Majuba Hill. In the afternoon the Queen and Princesses witnessed a cricket match between the Household and the Royal Yacht Clubs, and in the evening the Countess of Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. E. Baring, and Captain Thomson dined with the Royal family. On Wednesday the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany visited Her Majesty. The Queen and Princess Beatrice leave for Scotland on Monday week.

The Prince of Wales rejoined his wife and daughters on board the *Osborne* at the end of last week in time to be present at the Cowes Regatta. The Royal party, with the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, watched the proceedings throughout, and were much interested in the race for gigs belonging to Her Majesty's yachts, which was won by the *Osborne's* boat, the *Rising Hope*. On Monday the Prince and Princess were to have been present at Lord and Lady Gort's garden-party at East Cowes Castle, but were prevented by the bad weather. In the evening, however, the Prince accompanied the Duke of Edinburgh to Portsmouth to attend the annual dinner of the Royal Naval Club, returning to the *Osborne* amidst violent wind and rain. On Wednesday the Prince and Princess, with their daughters, the Crown Prince of Germany, and Prince Henry, crossed to Portsmouth to be present at the Naval and Military Sports, luncheon previously with Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. Afterwards the Princess of Wales gave away the prizes. The Prince intends to sail his yacht *Alme* in the regatta of the Corinthian Yacht Club to-day (Saturday). The Prince and Princess will start for the North about the first week in September, and after visiting Liverpool, to open the new docks, will go straight to the Highlands.

Princess Louise leaves Liverpool for Canada on October 20th, and the Marquis of Lorne will arrange the conclusion of his tour so as to meet her at Quebec.—The Duke of Edinburgh visits Dundee on the 25th inst., to inspect the training-ship *Albatross*.—Prince and Princess Christian have been staying with the Earl and Countess of Clarendon at Watford, to attend a bazaar in aid of the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home at St. Leonard's.—Princess Beatrice is following in the artistic footsteps of her elder sisters, and has completed a birthday book, which will appear at Christmas. The book will consist of water-colour drawings, representing the twelve months of the year by their appropriate flowers.

The Empress of Germany is recovering satisfactorily, but her progress is likely to be very slow.—The King of the Sandwich Islands has been in Vienna, where he has been most enthusiastically received. King Kalakaua, however, declares that his English visit will be remembered as the pleasantest part of his trip, owing to the warm hospitality shown to him. He has now gone to Paris.

NOW THAT THE MOUNTAINEERING SEASON HAS FULLY SET IN, patriotic Frenchmen are planning how to bring their own mountains into notice, so as in some measure to divert the stream of climbers from Switzerland. Accordingly the French Alpine Club intend to construct improved roads, huts, and shelters on the chief heights of the Dauphiné and Savoyard Alps, of the Jura, and of Auvergne, and are preparing tempting pamphlets for distribution. The original Alpine Club, by the way, holds a Congress at Milan on the 29th inst., to be followed by excursions round the Italian lakes. Mont Blanc was ascended last week by three Frenchmen, who report that the large crevasse which has lately appeared at the summit is rapidly enlarging.



THE DOCTORS AT CHURCH.—Special sermons in connection with the International Medical Congress were on Sunday preached in St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, the members occupying reserved seats at both services, which were attended by crowded congregations. At the Abbey Canon Barry took his text from 1 Thess. v. 23, and after a touching allusion to "that eloquent tongue which should rightly have spoken," spoke of the Christian view of the body as no incumbrance, but an integral part of man, co-ordinate with the soul and the spirit. Hence the art of medicine was part of the Divine scheme, and shared the Divine blessing. The principle of specialism enunciated in the Congress was here applicable. Medicine should be non-metaphysical and non-theological, theology fearless and independent of physical science. But this specialism had its limits and its dangers—the perfect theologian must have gone beyond theology, the perfect man of science beyond his own boundaries. At St. Paul's Canon Liddon, taking as his text Mark ix. 30, spoke first of the great interest of the occasion, and the vast amount and variety of knowledge gathered together from the ends of the earth for the benefit of mankind. In Christ were found the two characteristics of the physician in their fulness—knowledge and philanthropy. His work was less like a clergyman's than a physician's. The miracles exhibited Him as the restorer and deliverer of human nature as a whole, thus eternally consecrating the medical profession. The physician was both teacher and prophet. He was the interpreter of natural laws, which were as much Divine as the Ten Commandments, and could show how moral law transgressed avenges itself, not only in hospitals but in lunatic asylums, for moral truth has physical grounds. He should recognise the true limits of his knowledge; he could speak of life as "the sum of the conjoint action of all the parts," with a life contained, nevertheless, in each cell; but so he only stated its points of contact with the physical organs. The principle of life could not be surprised in a corner; standing on the "awful frontier" of matter and spirit, the physician should be a witness of the mystery of things that men may do justice to a revelation of what they are and what they shall be. A prophet, above all, of Death, he should not lead men to husband the mere physical life by withholding the truth that death was certain, at the expense of the spirit which lacked time to prepare to meet the Unseen.

THE VACANT DEANERY of Westminster, says the *Daily News*, having been declined by the Bishop of Manchester, has been offered to Dr. Butler, Head Master of Harrow, who will probably accept it.

ANONYMOUS MUNIFICENCE.—On Sunday last 500*l.* in bank notes was dropped into the offertory bag at Chelmsford Church, with a written request that it should be given to the Chelmsford Infirmary. In July last year a like donation was made in the same way to the Chelmsford Dispensary.

THE REV. T. P. DALE, now Rector of Sansthorpe, in the Diocese of Lincoln, was on Friday last declared by Lord Penzance to be in contempt of Court for not having paid the plaintiffs' costs (13*5*l.) in the action against him for Ritualistic practices at St. Vedast's. The next step will be to proceed in the Chancery Division for a *significavit*, with a view to a sequestration.

THE MILES PLATTING RITUAL CASE.—The Rev. S. F. Green's furniture has been sold by auction to satisfy the distraint for the costs of the prosecution. Some articles of personal interest were bought in by his friends, and an incense-fount and two other articles were bought for the church, the curate's protest against their being put up being disregarded. Some of the parishioners have sent a petition for Mr. Green's release to General Ponsonby for presentation to the Queen; and a suggestion has been published that all loyal Churchmen should withhold their usual subscriptions from all religious societies and charities patronised by the Bishops until their lordships intervene on Mr. Green's behalf.

A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH is about to be erected at Tottenham, at a cost of about 3,000*l.* The foundation-stone was laid on Friday last by Cardinal Manning, and the building when complete is to be dedicated to St. Francis de Sales.



COVENT GARDEN PROMENADE CONCERTS.—We are now so accustomed to Promenade Concerts in the summer that their absence would be felt as a real privation, not only by the aborigines compelled to remain at home during the dead season, but by the "provincials" and foreigners, who choose that precise time of year to see the sights and hear the sounds of the biggest and most densely populated city in the world. London, in truth, never is, and never can be "empty;" and the entertainment most in vogue just now, and best suited to the majority of entertainment-seekers, is unquestionably music. Thus, the regret caused by the secession of Messrs. Gatti, whose management met with such general and well-earned appreciation, was in a great measure dissipated on its being made known that another had come forward to undertake the direction of the concerts. The present speculator, Mr. A. Gwyllyn Crowe, is no tyro in such matters, having been for some years past director of the concerts which have given musical repute to the Southport Aquarium, and previous to that, bandmaster in a regiment of Hussars. That Mr. Crowe knows how to select an orchestra efficient at all points was made clear on the opening night (Saturday) by a very brilliant performance of the "Grand March" from *Tannhäuser*—first piece in the programme. His orchestra, moreover, with our foremost English violinist, Mr. Carrodus, as "chef d'attaque," is as numerically strong as it is strong in individual talent—a fact still more incontestably proclaimed in Rossini's picturesque and magnificent overture to *Guillaume Tell*, which cast the March of Wagner, as might have been expected by reasonable amateurs, far into the shade. We shall not be expected to give a detailed account either of the instrumental or vocal achievements of the evening, which delighted a closely-packed audience, estimated at between 5,000 and 6,000 persons. Enough that, besides what we have mentioned, there were two orchestral "selections," in the first of which (on themes from Gounod's *Faust*—all now familiar as household words) Messrs. Radcliff, Egerton, Howard Reynolds, and Hughes, respectively distinguished themselves as solo performers on the flute, oboe, cornet, and opicicleide, while in the second (Mr. Fred. Godfrey's "Fantasia on English Melodies") the regular orchestra was strengthened by the co-operation of the band of the Coldstream Guards, under the direction of Mr. Thomas; that Mr. Richard Rickards, a young pianist, played excerpts from Mendelssohn, Chopin, and Rubinstein, with encouraging applause; that Mr. Carrodus, in his own "Fantasia on Scottish Airs," and Mr. Radcliff, in Nicholson's "Fantasia No. 12," won golden opinions, to which audible expression was emphatically given; and that the vocal pieces, Italian, French, German, and English, confided to

Madame Mary Cummings, Mdle. Elly Warnots (of the Royal Italian Opera), and Signor Foli, if applause and encores may count for anything, were greatly to the taste of the audience. M. Dubruq and Mr. Barrett, it should be added, also figured among the instrumental soloists, the former taking the chief part in Taubert's pretty "Liebesliedchen," for string quartet, with oboe *obbligato*, the latter being set down for piccolo *obbligato* in Jullien's arrangement of the *Pas des Patineurs* from Meyerbeer's opera, *Le Prophète*. The decorations ("Japanese"), the electric light, the "refreshment" department, and the Floral Hall—set aside for habitual smokers, but so crowded at times as to make ingress difficult, and, ingress once obtained, egress not a bit easier, may be left to the imagination. Some readier accommodation here might surely be contrived without a painful stretch of the inventive faculty. On Wednesday we had what it is the fashion to term a "classical night," the first part of the programme being chiefly derived from the works of acknowledged masters. The symphony was Mozart's superlative "Jupiter" (so-called), extremely well played under the direction of Mr. Crowe, whose beat is clear, and who conducts without any fussiness or attempt at individual display. There were also Schubert's *Rosamunde* overture, and the overture to *Der Freischütz*, each a fair test of orchestral efficiency—to say nothing about other pieces, except with regard to the *Danse des Sylphes*, from Berlioz's *Damnation de Faust*, the nice and subtle points in which were utterly lost through the noise engendered by a continual movement to and fro; so that this truly fanciful inspiration, set forth with such delicacy by the French musician, went for absolutely nothing. The pianist on the occasion was Madame Frickenhaus, a thoroughly accomplished artist, as amateurs well know, whose brilliant execution of Weber's brilliant *Concertstück* was worthy all commendation. In the vocal department Mdle. Elly Warnots, in one of the difficult airs allotted to the "Queen of Night" in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (sung in French), renewed her success of the first evening, and delighted all hearers. Miss Orridge, too, one of our most rising contraltos, pleased greatly in airs by Scarlatti and Salvador Rosa, and Mr. Frederick King chose Schubert's "Erl King," accompanied on the pianoforte by Mr. Cliffe. The second part was miscellaneous. Last night an English pianist, Miss Bessie Richards, who does credit both to her country and her art, was to commence a series of performances.

WAIFS.—A recent police regulation enjoins that from the 1st of October next every theatre in Berlin shall be provided with an iron curtain, shutting out the auditorium from the stage, and to be let down at an emergency, as, for instance, in the case of fire. Smoking also is henceforth to be prohibited at the so-called Reich-theater (a hint for Mr. Crowe and the Floral Hall at Covent Garden).—A new theatre is about to be built in Carlsbad, at the estimated cost of 250,000 florins. It is to be ready for the season of 1884, by which time the "estimated cost" is as likely as not to be doubled.—Once more we hear from Vienna that Rubinstein is about to relinquish public playing, and devote himself exclusively to composition. Those who admire his style, however, at least need not be afraid. The Antæus of the pianoforte will go on playing as long as he finds it profitable. That the gradual failing of his sight exercises a somewhat prejudicial influence on the accuracy of his execution can hardly be denied. His retirement from the public arena, however, has so often been proclaimed far and wide, that each fresh announcement is merely looked upon by the initiated as a reminder for his next series of performances. The playing of this renowned "virtuoso," not long since, in St. James's Hall and elsewhere, was so unequal as to make the *engouement* of hearers for whom nothing is satisfying but "higher development" appear, to sober and impartial judges, somewhat affected. The report has been contradicted by the Berlin *Musik-Welt*. Herr Rubinstein intends passing the winter in St. Petersburg, giving up his time to the composition of a ballet and an opera.—The Tetralogy of the *Ring des Nibelungen* is to be given during the present month at the Dresden Royal Opera House.—A new theatre for the performance exclusively of operetta, is to be built in the well-known Hotel Demuth, St. Petersburg.—Joseph Labitzky, the once famous waltz composer, rival of the elder Strauss and Lanner, recently celebrated his eightieth birthday.—The Politeama Felsineo at Bologna has been burnt down, happily without loss of life.—Johann Christian Lobe, a well-known and highly-esteemed writer on the theory of music, author of several valuable treatises, and a somewhat prolific composer for the theatre, the orchestra, and the chamber, died recently in Leipzig in his eighty-fifth year. Lobe wrote several operas, which have passed almost into oblivion. He was successively contributor to the *Allgemeine Musikzeitung*, *Fliegende Blätter für Musik*, the *Leipziger Illustrirte Zeitung*, &c., and other German art-periodicals. Among his most agreeable and popular contributions to the literature of music is the *Musikalische Briefe*, which contains the pleasant "Conversations with Mendelssohn," known to English admirers of that great composer through the translation of Mr. John Vipon Bridgeman. Lobe's most frequent signature during the later years of his journalistic activity was "Ein Wohlbekannter," a *nom de plume* familiar to all who took an interest in the subjects upon which he chiefly delighted to speak.—Among the operas included in the programme for the week's performances of Mr. Carl Rosa's English Company at the Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, was *Lohengrin*, with Miss Gaylord as Elsa. Mr. Packard as the "Knight of the Swan," and Miss Yorke as Ortrud. Whether the audience were likely to take to *Lohengrin* as warmly as to *Mignon* was at least doubtful, Wagner, though far more original, being far less rhythmically tuneful than the Frenchman, Ambroise Thomas. Nevertheless, *Lohengrin* was applauded, and, considering what Mr. Rosa has done for its composer in town and country, he is undoubtedly entitled to a place among the elect of Bayreuth.



THE TURF.—The "Sussex fortnight" showed no diminution of sport up to its close on Saturday afternoon last. The last day's racing at Brighton was, perhaps, the best of the three. For the Preston Handicap Sir John Astley's useful Zanoni was made favourite, and won, though the result might have been different had not Knight of Burghley interfered with Fetterless just as he was getting on terms with the winner. Goodness at last won a race for Captain Machell in the Kemp Town Plate, but it seemed rather hard that her backers had to lay 10 to 6 on her in a field of nine. The talent were right in declaring for Toastmaster in the Stewards' Cup, as Lord Wilton's colt won easily enough, beating eight others. The Cliftonville Plate, for two-year-olds, was a terrible blow to backers, Mr. Savile's good colt Whitechapel being beaten by Gaydene, to whom he was giving 16 lbs. The last race of the last day, a Selling Handicap, was appropriately enough won by Au Revoir, who had shown some form earlier in the week. Lewes followed on with a capital meeting, and on the first day a large field of thirteen youngsters came out for the Great South of England Breeders' Stakes. Peine de Cœur, on the strength of his Sandown performance, was made favourite, though he was giving weight to all his opponents. He ran excellently well, but the extreme outsider of the party, Count Lagrange's Executor, got home a short head before him.

Old Kaleidoscope, after a dead heat with Eliacin, won the Windmill Welter, and Mocollo showed that his second in the Stewards' Cup at Goodwood was no fluke by winning the De Warrenne Handicap for the Duke of Hamilton. Old Advance beat ten others in the Mile Race, but his backers had to lay 7 to 4 on him. Geheimniss, carrying 9 st., beat Marden (8 st. 11 lbs.) and three others in the Astley Stakes with consummate ease, and there can be no doubt now about her being the best two-year-old yet out this season. The victories of Wicken in the Juvenile Stakes, and of Cavendish Square in the Southdown Welter, made the day a good one for backers. They did not fare so well, however, on the morrow, though they picked out Mokanna for the Southdown Cup and Matlock for the Mount Harry Plate. They had to lay 2 to 1 on Marden, and to suffer the mortification of seeing him beaten by Lord Cadogan's Carlyle at even weights, and Lady Emily, carrying 11 lb. more, running him a dead heat for second place. He must be either an overrated animal, or fallen off recently; though it is evident that the reported trial of Carlyle some little time ago was not far wrong. Marden, too, it must be confessed, has been rather unlucky in the good company he has always had to meet in his various essays. After his recent displays no one, of course, would think of Berzenze for the Lewes Handicap, and in a field of seven three or four others were preferred to him, The Reeve being made favourite. He hung a good deal for a great part of the journey, but then went "like great guns," and beat The Reeve in a canter by a length and a half, the despised Stitchery getting third. Only Discount and Chevernel did battle for the County Cup, and slight odds were laid on the former, who won an exciting race by half a length.—Redcar in the North, and Kempton Park and Windsor in the South, have been the racing trysts during the present week, but nothing of special importance happened at any of them, if we except the defeat of Lucy Glitters in the Breeders' Foal Stakes at Redcar, in which she was beaten easily by Lord Bradford's Nesscliff. The filly had advanced in the St. Leger market from 40 to 1 to less than 20 to 1 within the last fortnight, and not a few reputedly wise men intimated that she would turn out a second Caller Ou. It is hardly necessary to say that her chance for the great Doncaster race now seems next to nothing.—The entries for the Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire number 122 and 165 respectively, as against 131 and 162 last year.—That terribly disappointing American horse Barrett has just been reshipped to the land of his birth.—James Potter, the well-known steeple-chase jockey and trainer, who met with so severe an accident in riding in March last, died at Epsom on the 5th inst.

CRICKET.—The Canterbury week was a greater success socially than cricketically, and things got a little mixed in the making up of the different elevens. As we ventured to anticipate, Kent won the match against the Gentlemen of England, who were decidedly a powerful team. To the 92 of the England first innings Kent replied with 143. England then got 134, but Kent rubbed off the balance with the loss of two wickets.—The Gloucestershire v. Nottinghamshire Match at Clifton was a very sensational one, and the fact that the former could only put together 63 in the first innings has been the great surprise of the season. On the second attempt not more than 116 was the result, and Notts, which had run up 163 on the first hand, made the required 17 to win without the loss of a wicket. The bowling of Flowers was the most wonderful seen this season, as in the first innings he took six wickets for 3, and eight for 23 runs. This is the first defeat in a county match which Gloucestershire has sustained at Clifton in the course of twelve seasons.—Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire have tried a fall, to the discomfiture of the latter by nine wickets.—The two great business towns of Liverpool and Manchester have also tried conclusions on the green sward, "Cottonopolis" winning in one innings.—A capital match is in course of play, at the time of writing, at Brighton, for the benefit of James Lillywhite, who has served the county of Sussex so long and so well. Two first-class elevens, the one of Gentlemen and the other of Professionals, have been got together, and so evenly matched are they that in the first innings each side had scored exactly the same number, 204.—I Zingari seem to be pretty "hot" with the bat this season, having scored at Woolwich a few days ago 409 in one innings, as against 99 and 97 of the Royal Artillery. For I Zingari the Hon. H. Lyttelton scored exactly 100, Mr. Cotterell 140, and Mr. A. W. Ridley 66.

AQUATICS.—It was a long time since anything like a good sculling race had been seen over the Championship Course, till on Tuesday last, J. Largin, of Wandsworth, and H. Thomas, of Hammersmith, tried which was the better man for a prize of 200*l.*, given by some patrons of aquatic sport. It turned out that Largin was, as after some good racing he beat the veteran easily enough, and will probably make his way into the first rank of scullers.

YACHTING.—Among the many races which have taken place recently at "The Wight," that between the *Latona* and *Florinda* yaws was a noteworthy one, as over a course of fifty miles the *Latona* only won by fifty-one seconds.



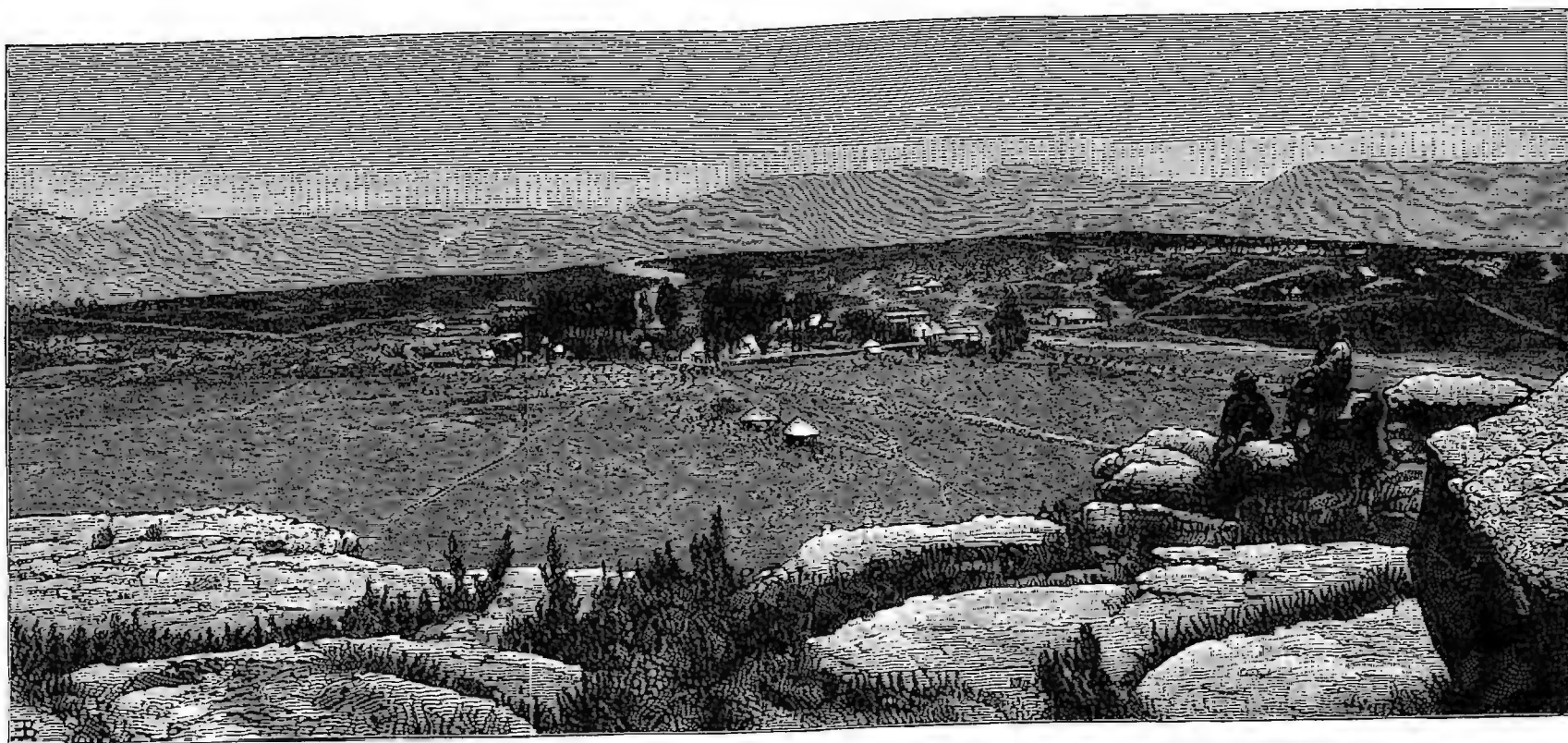
JURYMEN AND THE OATH.—At the Norwich Assizes last week a jurymen, Mr. Cooper, stated that, though he had no objection to be sworn, he thought that he had better affirm, as he had no religious belief. Mr. Justice Denman, however, decided that he could neither be sworn nor affirm as a member of a jury. He was accordingly ordered to stand aside, and another juror was sworn in his stead. Some of our contemporaries remark that this seems like offering a premium on the profession of agnosticism; but the suggestion involves an extremely low estimate of the honesty of those who possess religious faith.

THE MATRIMONIAL CAUSES ACT.—At the Warwick Assizes Mr. Justice Stephen, after sentencing a man to seven years' penal servitude for gross cruelty to his wife, was asked by the prosecuting counsel to give the woman the custody of her children, and free her from any obligation to live with her husband in future. His lordship, however, was doubtful whether the Act gave him the same power that it conferred on magistrates; but, after a long discussion, he made the order, leaving it to the husband, at the expiration of his sentence, to move the Court to set it aside. It would be a curious anomaly if it should turn out that a judge cannot legally do that which a magistrate is empowered to do.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—At the Liverpool Assizes the other day, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge spoke rather strongly in favour of breach of promise actions as being "extremely useful in keeping people within the bounds of duty;" but that there is another side to the question will probably be admitted by all who have studied the case of Lamb v. Fryer, in which the lady was awarded 1,000*l.* damages, an immense sum to be paid by a curate whose income is little more than 200*l.* a year, especially as the lady herself is stated to have a larger income in her own right. It must, however, be confessed that there was little in the defendant's conduct to excite sympathy. The time he spent in writing 900 love letters, each a yard and a half in length, might certainly have been better employed.

A CURIOUS COPYRIGHT QUESTION has been raised by the proprietor of Eno's Fruit Salt. In 1879 he employed Messrs. Gilbert and Rivington, printers, to get his advertisement translated into

(Continued on page 171)



School Burned by Basutos

Cape Mounted Rifles' Camp

SOUTH AFRICA—MASERU, BASUTOLAND

TO THE GREAT NORTH-WEST WITH THE MARQUIS OF LORNE

THE Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada, started last month on an extensive tour through the North-West provinces of the Dominion. The first halting-place of note was Winnipeg, which he left on Monday for Battleford. Thence he will go to the ranching country near the Rocky Mountains, and then return to Winnipeg, traversing 2,000 miles during his journey, which is expected to occupy some eight weeks. As our special artist, Mr. Sydney P. Hall, has been invited to accompany the Governor-General, we hope to publish from time to time the chief incidents of interest of the trip. Although Lord Lorne will really only travel through a comparatively small section of the British North American Empire, the district which he has chosen is of considerable importance, for where but a short time since only hunters and trappers existed, the vanguard of agriculturists is now steadily advancing, while the old forts of the Hudson's Bay Company are being transformed into townships and agricultural centres. As Mr. W. Frazer Rae, in his work, "Newfoundland to Manitoba," reviewed in another column, bears witness, agricultural emigrants are beginning to find that there is a great field for their labour and capital in that vast region of the Great North-West, which hitherto has been neglected for the better known and, climatically speaking, more attractive Western territories of the United States. The great and undeveloped resources which the Canadian Dominion presents to emigrants, however, are being gradually recognised, and one good effect of Lord Lorne's tour will undoubtedly be to bring

prominently into notice a region which possesses a cold climate in winter, it is true, but which, at the same time, offers great advantages to the enterprising and the industrious. To turn, however, to the immediate subject of our sketches, our artist crossed the Atlantic in the *Caspian*, a handsome vessel belonging to the Allan line, which runs from Liverpool to Quebec—a route some 400 miles shorter than that to New York, and which, moreover, to those who love not the ocean, offers the advantage that two days of the transit are passed in comparatively smooth water, and in sight of splendid scenery. Some of the passages have been remarkably quickly performed, and the *Sardinian* has accomplished the distance between Liverpool and Quebec in eight days. The majority of our artist's sketches, taken on board the *Caspian*, are sufficiently explained by their titles. That of the "Man Overboard" is described by him as follows: "We lost the man in a gale on Friday morning, June 25th, at 3 A.M. His name was William Hughes. He was passing a lasher from the block to one of the davits of the lifeboat No. 2, port side, when he was washed overboard by a sea, or lost his hold in some way. We passengers awoke at the stopping of the engines. We heard the stamping of feet overhead. Ladies alarmed asked hurried questions from their cabins. Sir John Glover, Governor of Newfoundland, a passenger, did his best to quell their terrors. The cry 'Man overboard!' was heard, and some of us partially dressed went on deck. Attempts had been made to launch a boat, but abandoned, as the sea was running very high. Two life-buoys had been flung to the poor fellow, one a (Holm's) patent light lifebuoy. The fire of this was seen distinctly not far off. The ship was backed down to the lifebuoys, but they both were empty.

The man had his oilskins and heavy sea boots on, and probably sank directly."

PRESIDENT BRAND AND HIS FAMILY

WE published a portrait of President Brand, of the Orange Free State, in the early part of this year (April 9, No. 593), and now represent him surrounded by his family. During the hostilities in the Transvaal President Brand lost no opportunity of mediating between the British and the Boers, and a considerable part of the success ultimately achieved in the negotiations is to be ascribed to his efforts. His labours in the cause of peace justly earned the warm acknowledgments of the British Government, and were equally appreciated by the Boers themselves. Mr. Brand's family has been located at the Cape for many years. His grandfather was a member of the Court of Justice. His father, Sir C. J. Brand, was an Advocate in the same Court, a member of the Legislative Council, and, on the establishment of Parliamentary Government in 1854, was elected Speaker of the House of Assembly. President Brand, the chief personage in our group, was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in Trinity Term, 1849, and in 1876 attended the Conference held in London on South African affairs. One of the President's sons, Mr. C. J. Brand, was also called to the Bar at the same Inn in Easter Term, 1880. The President is universally esteemed as an impartial and warm-hearted man, and possesses considerable influence amongst Afrianders of all denominations.—Our portraits are from a photograph by F. Armstrong, Bloemfontein.



SOUTH AFRICA—PRESIDENT BRAND, OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE, AND HIS FAMILY

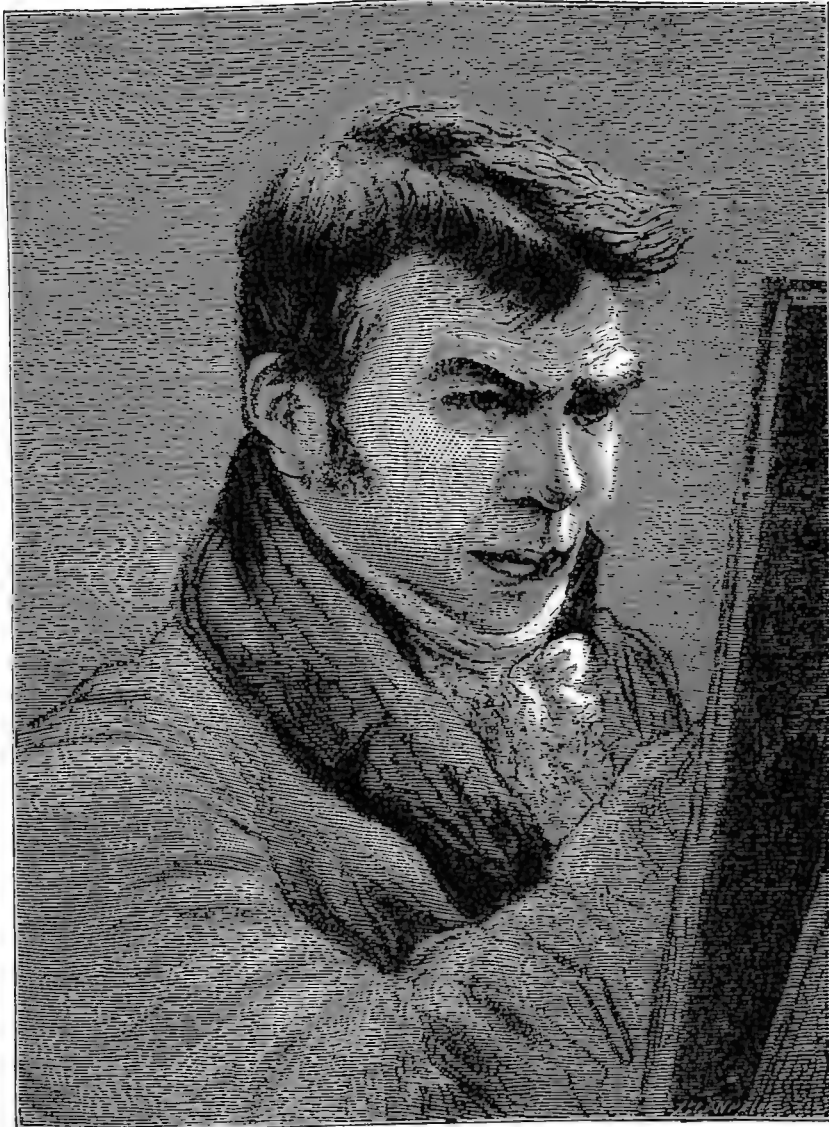
AUGUST 13, 1881

"OLD" CROME

SIXTY years since England possessed a great landscape painter without knowing it; and, now that the painter has been discovered, we know next to nothing about the man. A single sentence serves to tell all that can be told of John Crome's life. The son of a poor Norwich weaver, apprenticed to a plumber and glazier, he became an artist; married and had a family; maintained himself mainly by teaching drawing; was styled "Old" to distinguish him from his eldest son of the same name, also a painter; and died, in 1827, in his fifty-second year. So great was his success that his reputation, only provincial during his life, has grown ever since, until he ranks with the great painters of the English School. His works hang in the National Gallery, and find a fit place among the Old Masters at Burlington House.

What were the steps of so remarkable a career? Absolutely self-taught, it may yet be said that perhaps no man was ever better trained in his profession than Crome. In the first place, he was through his whole life an enthusiastic student in the School of Nature. He drew occasionally, but observed more; and this to such an extent that it was a tradition among the later Norwich artists that Crome never sketched from Nature; and certainly very few, if any, studies of this sort by his hand remain. He seems in this respect to have followed the practice recommended by Girtin, who said, "When you see a remarkable effect, do not stop to draw it; but look at it well, and then go home and paint it." Doubtless this habit of observation enabled Crome to give the general tone, the whole together of colour and chiaroscuro which pervades the natural landscape, and which is so high and so difficult an attainment in art.

But Crome had other teachers. With the sure instinct of genius he knew that he needed instruction not to be found in the woods or in the fields. To learn Art he went to artists, and he went to the best. A private collection in the neighbourhood, containing works by Hobbema and other good masters, served as his academy. How enthusiastically the study thus begun was continued through life we may learn from a pathetic incident. Dying, his last utterance was, "Oh Hobbema, Hobbema, how have I loved thee!" The influence of the great masters is evident in many of his works. The "Slate Quarries" in the National Gallery vividly recalls Velasquez; and there is a small picture in the Munich collection, attributed to Rembrandt, which betrays in the execution, the scenery, and alas! in the cracks occasioned



JOHN CROME, LANDSCAPE PAINTER

BORN 1769; DIED 1827

From a Sketch Portrait by one of His Pupils

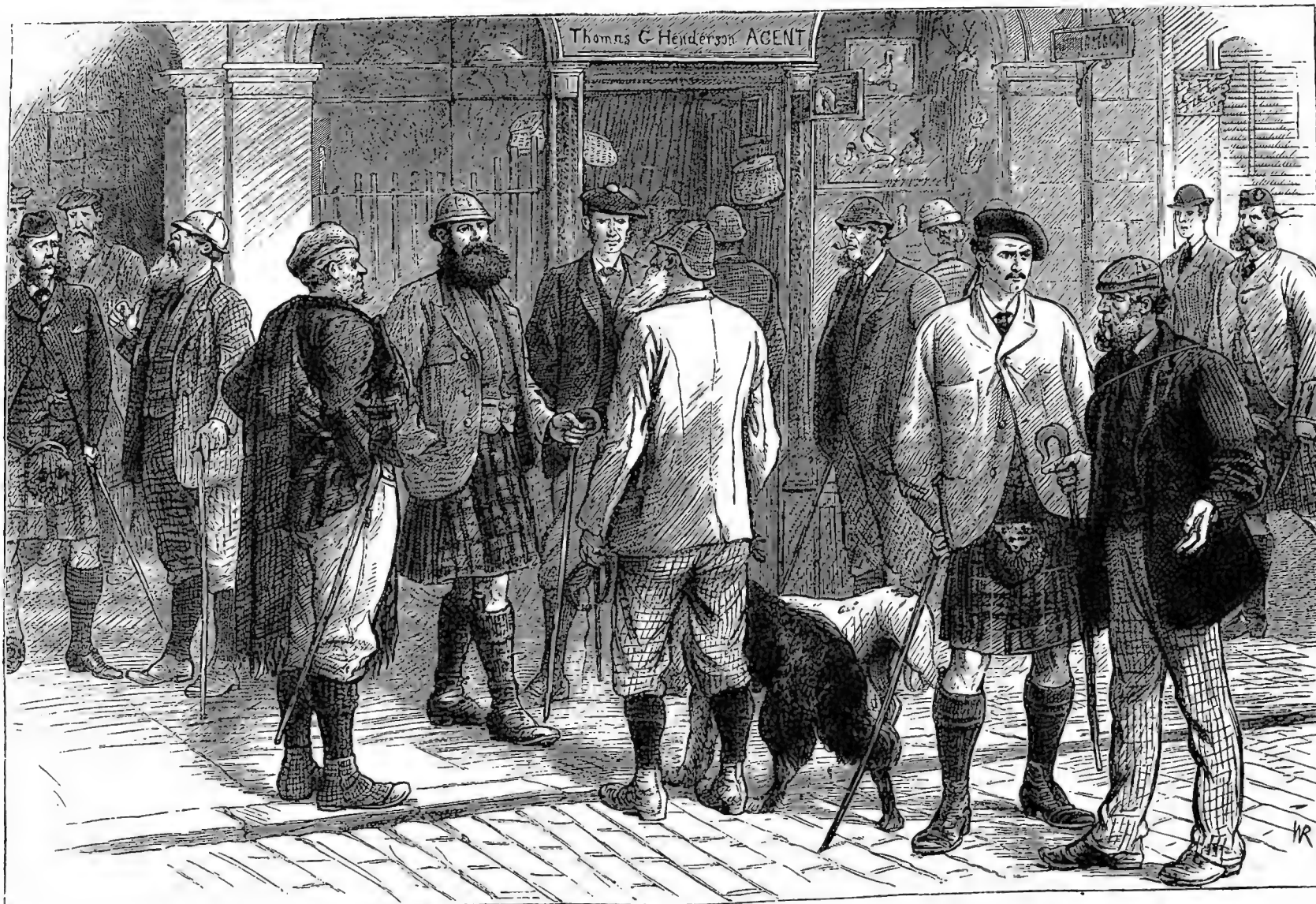
by the too free use of a certain vehicle much employed by the Norwich school, the hand of Crome; and as it was not introduced into the Gallery until about sixty years ago, and then by King Louis of Bavaria, who, though a great patron of Art, was not infallible as a judge, there can be no doubt that it was painted in Norfolk and not in Holland. But if occasionally an imitator, Crome was in his general practice strikingly original. He learned from the great masters their principles, which, as Gainsborough had done before him, he "applied not in their manner but in his own." Thus gifted and instructed, he was able to give to the homeliest subjects an air of dignity, and to clothe the roadsides and commons of Norfolk with an ideal charm.

Among his minor merits is his execution. His touch is delightfully free, varied, and expressive. The oak tree, which he loved to paint, has never, perhaps, been so well rendered.

Such was the painter. The character of the man appears to have been eminently genial. Without the advantages of education, and with a somewhat rough exterior, his simplicity, good temper, vivacity, and enthusiasm rendered him a favourite with all classes. One rare excellence he possessed. He loved his art for its own sake more than as a means of getting money, or even fame, and was, therefore, perfectly content with a local reputation and very moderate prices. It may be doubted whether such a man would have been more happy if he had lived to earn ten thousand a year, and to affix two letters to his name.

The annexed portrait, taken from an original sketch by one of Crome's ablest pupils, gives a very accurate idea of his person, and, what is more, a strong impression of the mind illuminating the homely features. It is the work of a lady, a member of the Gurney family, and is now in the possession of her son, Edmund Backhouse, Esq., of Darlington. It has been well reproduced by Mr. James Cooper, photographer of that town.

A "PENNSYLVANIA MARRIAGE BENEFIT ASSOCIATION" has been formed at Philadelphia, which might well be imitated on this side of the Atlantic. A member is enrolled from the age of fifteen, and pays an entrance fee of a pound, which is invested by the society. On his marriage he will be entitled to receive a certain specified sum—varying according to the amount for which he has insured himself—to start his household. This amount will be taken at first from the invested fees, and when these are exhausted the sum will be made up by an assessment upon the members.



SIGNS OF THE "TWELFTH"—HIRING GILLIES FOR THE SHOOTING SEASON

A SKETCH AT INVERNESS



II.

"THE Westminster Confession of Faith," the last paper written for *Macmillan* by Dean Stanley, and corrected by him during his fatal illness, will be the first to which all readers of the August number will turn for a final example of the writer's wide and wise toleration—the paper was clearly suggested by the Robertson Smith trial—and able treatment of historic documents.—Of the other articles (always excepting Mr. H. James's really interesting as well as artistic novel) the most striking in their way are two translations—the one of some fresh sketches of Russian life contributed by Tourgenieff to the *feuilleton* of a new St. Petersburg "daily;" the other of a paper on the British army in the "Militär-Wochenblatt," not flattering, but full of matter for reflection, and written after Sir Garnet Wolseley's heart. Our officers, the German writer holds, and the men, who "naturally take their cue from them," foolishly look down on every exercise which "serves no parade purpose." Thus sham fights at Aldershot do more harm than good; and "the only good skirmishing we saw in England was done by the Volunteers."

Seaside sketches, appropriately at the present season, supply *Scribner* with subjects for two good papers—the first, a description of that popular American summer resort, Rhode Island—the Aquidneck, or "Isle of Peace," of the poetic Indian fancy; the second of scenes "By the Sea in Normandy," among the bathers and fishers of secluded Etretat.—"Ice-Yachting on the Hudson" is a capital account of one of the grandest of winter sports, though one only to be pursued where the frozen rivers are on the magnificent scale of New World streams.—"Robert Fulton's Experiments in Submarine Gunner," from his unpublished MSS., is a curious paper on the early attempts of that inventive genius to solve a problem which, when mastered, will, we fear, revolutionise for the hundredth time the entire system of naval warfare.

Our tried friend the *Atlantic*, too, comes out this month with quite a revival of its old *verve* and spirit. Mr. R. Grant White's "On the Acting of Iago" pronounces the modern conception of the character, as of a hardened and, to the eye of the spectator in the pit, somewhat too transparent villain, to be the reverse of that which Shakespeare dreamed. Iago's sin is simple selfishness. His outward character—that which he should assume upon the stage—is that of a blunt, and even warm-hearted man, a *bon camarade* who would not hurt a fly, unless, indeed, as an Italian convict told a prison visitor, the fly should make itself disagreeable.—Octave Thanet continues his painful study of "The Indoor Pauper" with ghastly tales of fires in almshouses, and of Red Tapeism predominant even in the "Hub" State of Massachusetts; and W. D. Howells contributes the first chapters of a promising tale, "Dr. Breen's Practice."

In the *North American* Mr. F. G. Mather discusses "Obstacles to Annexation" (i.e., of Canada), with a provokingly complacent conviction that some day the Dominion will drop of itself into the arms of the United States, much as "the lady who affirms she will never marry embraces in most instances the first eligible opportunity to do so." He is much more troubled, in fact, by the increase of the Canadian debt, and by such social difficulties as the knighting of certain prominent Canadians (who would have to resign their titles if they joined the Union), than by any fear, or even suspicion, of sentimental ties between Great Britain and the Colony. Still, even Mr. Mather admits that for some little time yet, whatever party is in power in Canada, there "will be reluctance to turn it over to the States."

Cassell's *Magazine of Art* and the *American Art Review* are both fair numbers. Specially noticeable to our taste in the former are "How Oxford has been Built, Part II." and Mr. W. M. Rossetti's true story of "The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood;" in the latter the concluding chapters of Mr. Riordan's very laudatory, but decidedly clever, history of that new Art-product of the States, "American Stained Glass."

In the *Churchman*, Admiral Baillie Hamilton has a good paper on "Missions to Mercantile Seamen." There is something quite of Biblical simplicity in the account of primitive "celebrations" and of "breaking of bread" among rude sailors far away from priest or church.—"Sister Augustine" is a pathetic tale of a recent victim of Ultramontaniam in Germany.—"The Revised Version" and the "Text of the Revised New Testament" each supply matter for papers full of close and scholarly criticism.

"Memorials of St. Paul in Malta" and "William Law, Non-juror and Mystic"—the famous author of the "Serious Call," though practically he contributed not a little to the Evangelical revival of the last century, is dear to Romanists for his asceticism and mysticism and strong belief in the Real Presence—are among the most attractive papers in *The Month*.—The *Argosy* and *The Theatre* for August are hardly up to their average excellency.

Blackwood for August discards politics for more than usual profusion of lighter matter. "The Meiningen Company and the London Stage" is an admirable criticism, not of our German visitors alone (with nice discrimination of their merits and their short-comings), but of Shakespearean representations generally since the day when John Kemble set the first example of that superfluity of accessories, of stage-crowds and decorations, which, as Scott observed at the time, only "shoulder aside the dramatic interest" and, instead of enhancing, offer mar the subtler conceptions of the poet.—The concluding part of the "Defence of Standerton" is better than the opening, and shows clearly that our poor Regulars, fairly led, could fairly hold their own even against the Boer sharpshooters.—The first chapters of a new tale, "Uncle Z.," open up delightful prospects of a bit of out-of-the-way German romance.—"Hints of the Vacation Ramble" contrive to say much that is good and something that is new on the most well-worn of trite subjects.

To the *Gentleman's* Mr. A. C. Ewald contributes a paper on "The Gunpowder Plot," containing some new lights for readers who do not follow step by step the latest researches among State Papers and Records. It is not, perhaps, generally known that the majority of the plotters—and all the leading spirits—had been brought up as Protestants; and were, therefore, full of that "enthusiasm of the convert" of which our nineteenth century knows something.—"English and American English" and "Arabic Fables" are both good—the latter especially a charming excursion into a field of literature just beginning to attract some popular attention.—"Science Notes" and "Table Talk" should alike be consulted—the one for some clever notes on comets and their work; the other for certain quaint theatrical reminiscences of the time when Mr. B. Webster was a junior actor and "L. Bulwer, Esq.," a young gentleman who wrote epilogues.

Time, too, this month is very readable. Mr. Dutton Cook turns over an old book, "Sketches of Manners, 1821, by the Hermit in London," to discourse pleasantly therefrom on the ladies of fashion and "the dandies" of "Sixty Years Since."—"En-tout-Cas" describes amusingly a "Village Concert;" and M. Lucien Biart supplies another sketch of Mexican character—three-fourths romantic, one-fourth grotesque—from "The Manuscripts of Doctor Bernagius."

In the *St. James's* Dr. T. Robinson has a sensible article on "Food," wherein he maintains (in common with all our best

chemists) that meat, alcoholic drinks in moderation, and bread made of the whitest flour are the three best constituents of our chief meal—arguing pleasantly, as against the vegetarian, that with our small stomachs and hard-worked lives it is best to take the major part of our vegetables in the form of the concentrated essence which has been previously transmuted into flesh by the sheep or ox.—has been previously transmuted into flesh by the sheep or ox.—Mr. John Payne's "Gherib and Agib," from the Arabic, may interest those who care to know the sort of thing to which the Bedouin will listen till the small hours of the morning.

A paper upon "Wood-Spring Priory," a little-known Abbey Church, converted long ago into a farm-house, and another upon the "Brasses of Huntingdonshire," are perhaps the most "special" in a very good number of the *Antiquary*.—Another on the extent and nature of "Shakespeare's Deer Adventure," by the late W. Henty, of Colonial fame, will be read with interest by many, both for its own and for its author's sake.—The "Note-book"—a new feature if we err not—is full of very attractive matter.

In the *Art Journal* Mr. G. T. Robinson has a further instalment of his excellent articles upon "Household Furniture," and Mr. D. C. Thomson continues "Hints to Collectors," with some good notes upon the "Works of Bewick."

Of *St. Nicholas*—saving special praise of the inexhaustible inventiveness of "Phaeton Rogers" and "Nature's Wonderland"—what more need be said than that it is the same good shilling's-worth for boys as ever?

THE HOME OF THE OYSTER

"On Monday, the 1st of August," so ran an advertisement in the *Whitstable Times* and *Herne Bay Herald*—conspicuously displayed as befitted an announcement of so much local importance—"the oyster season commences." Here was an opportunity not to be neglected. The opening day of the oyster season should be duly honoured—if anywhere in the town and by the townsfolk who are proudly conscious of the fact that the fame of Whitstable is founded on the fact that the precious bivalve is native to the soil over which its neighbouring water flows. It was the more gratifying to find that Whitstable was still staunch to its tradition, because, as every one must have remarked, there has been exhibited by the public generally an increasing disposition to treat with a slighting that bids fair to culminate in positive indifference the anniversary of the oyster opening day. The proverb that familiarity breeds contempt does not apply to the most delicious of shell-fish. Scarcely a quarter of a century since, when oysters were so abundant and reasonable in price that, excepting the choicest sorts, they were accounted vulgar eating,—when the stalls of the market streets were laden with them, and they were regarded by poor people as a cheap and nutritious article of diet, "Grotto Day" was an annual celebration, as familiar and unfeeling in the metropolis and its suburbs as May Day or Guy Faux Day. On the 1st of August there was scarcely to be found round about London a bye street the juvenile residents of which did not band together and build of oyster shells a beehive-shaped mound, hollow within, and externally decorated with such gay flowers as happened to be in bloom at the time, and which, when the shades of evening fell, was illuminated with lighted candles placed inside, and which shone at the chinks and interstices with a twinkling like that of imprisoned glowworms. It was generally understood that on that day—the 1st of August—the laws relating to mendicity were inoperative. Shell in hand, troops of children paraded the streets, and under the very nose of the policeman on beat solicited every one they met to "remember the grotto." In many districts the festival is still observed, if not in its entirety, as far as affects its begging element. Wide-awake young Arabs of the wilds of London, knowing nothing of a grotto or the building thereof, under pretence of its being "grotto day," and with a shell in their hand as a badge and licence, cadge for halfpence all through August, from the first to the thirty-first. They are aware of and take advantage of the fact that in these degenerate times probably not one Londoner in half-a-dozen could tell off-hand and correctly the date of the real and original grotto day. It may be pleaded that this unsatisfactory condition of affairs has been brought about more through default on the part of the oyster than because of a capricious falling away of the affections of the people; and as regards grotto building, it might perhaps be reasonably urged that the construction of that fragile edifice is no longer possible. That it was all very well when oysters were oysters, residing in a pair of shells fairly practicable for building purposes, the one being evenly concave, and the other flat, but that it would be a mere mockery and a waste of time to attempt so slight a structure as a grotto with shells such as envelope foreign substitutes for the English oyster, and which in shape and weight are mere clumps and clinkers, shapeless and all no use, and are ill-adapted for neat and symmetrical piling. Again, as regards the oyster itself, it may be said that while it exhibited a proper regard for the laws that regulate supply and demand, and liberally responded to the toil of the dredger, its claim to have the commencement of its season marked with a red-letter day in the Calendar was cheerfully recognised. But a melancholy change came over the oyster. Its "spat" deteriorated; it rebelled against the first law of Nature, which bade it increase and multiply. With nothing in the world else to do it refused to fatten as it lay in its bed, and pined unaccountably. There are other creatures of humble origin who, unexpectedly raised to a more elevated sphere, become unbearably whimsical, and difficult to understand or deal with. So it appears to have been with the English native oyster. While it was esteemed to be well worth sixpence the dozen, but no more, there was no fault to be found with it. It almost invariably showed itself an honest little fish, the cheerful content it enjoyed during its space of existence being satisfactorily demonstrated by its plumpness when it was finally rendered up to the inquisitorial knife. But as soon as advancing civilisation began to attribute to its virtues that it hitherto had not been credited with, straightway it commenced to exhibit that waywardness and uncertainty which has been gradually increasing from the now far distant period when the long-maintained standard of sixpence a dozen was raised to a shilling, until the present time, when a dozen Whitstable natives transferred to Fleet Street or Cheapside are deemed to be commercially equivalent to three-and-sixpence.

Nevertheless, whatever our personal grievance against the oyster, it was gratifying to dwell on the fact that the good folk of Whitstable were staunch to, and celebrated its August rites with befitting pomp and ceremony. Such at least, on perusing the already mentioned advertisement, I hoped and believed would be the case. It was interesting to speculate on the probable nature of the rejoicing and its most salient features. Would there be a gigantic grotto, built by the jolly dredgers and "free fishers" of Whitstable on the beach, or perhaps out at sea on the famous Pudding Pan rocks, where the shelly yield is richest, and would it at night-time be illumined with coloured fires, with a gorgeous pyrotechnic display to wind up with? Or would the aged and poor of Whitstable—if there are any poor in a town notoriously so prosperous—be invited to an unlimited feed of the pick of some of the nourishing bivalves, with brown bread-and-butter and unmeasured stout of the strongest brewing?

Resolved to be present in good time to witness the whole of the programme, I arrived at Whitstable Station about ten o'clock in the morning, but it was in vain that I gazed about me in search of indications of the great oyster festival. That the inhabitants were keeping Bank Holiday was evident, but from all the visual evidences

that presented themselves of this, from an oyster-seeking point of view, being Whitstable, it might as well have been Windsor; Whitechapel might have been backed against it at any odds. But perhaps I was at the wrong end of the town. I had heard of Whitstable's quaint divisions of "Middle Wall" and "Sea Wall." Probably I was too far inland to make acquaintance with the shelly abundance or the *fête* connected with it. I wandered past Kitchenham Street as far as the Middle Wall without discovering so much as an oyster shell, let alone an oyster shop. I entered an old-fashioned inn, and in an off-hand way ordered a dozen best natives with stout and bread-and-butter. The landlady could scarcely have appeared more surprised if she had interpreted the word "natives" to mean inhabitants. She did not think they were to be had, she remarked after some reflection, and if so, they would be very dear. "How much?" Well, she couldn't exactly say; but as much as three shillings or three-and-sixpence a dozen. "But, my good madam," said I, "that is exactly the price of native oysters at the best shops in London." "Ay, that's where it is, you see," she replied blandly; "that's why they send 'em all there." "But surely, being on the spot, one should experience no difficulty in obtaining oysters at some price, at all events." "Yes, you might think so; but you'd find it was a mistake," said the landlady pleasantly. "We don't get any oysters here, bless you. It was different when I was a girl. They were nineteen shillings a bushel then, now they are *twelve guineas*." "And is the yield as plentiful as ever it was?" "The old yield is dying out; there'd be hardly any oysters worth speaking of if they didn't lay down 'spat' got from elsewhere. Last year the Company spent, goodness knows how much, in spat. Ten or twelve thousand pounds." "And what is the 'Company'?" "The old Company of Free Fishers and Dredgers, and a very close Company it is—quite a family party, as one may say. There's about 450 in it, and they have about eighty boats among 'em, and they share the profits." "They are all workers, I suppose?" "Not half of 'em," replied my talkative informant. "They all have to be elected at the Water Court, but there are full members and non-workers and the last get only a third share of profits. But, bless you, they spend a lot of money if they make a lot. When a member is sick he receives a full allowance, and there are more than sixty widows, and each of 'em take a non-worker's share." "Then you don't think that the poor dredgers and free-fishers are victimised by the great Billingsgate salesmen as they say others are who send their goods to the London market?" "I don't know how it is, or how it isn't," she replied, "but I should think our people were doing very well indeed. And as for being victimised—it isn't one to be tackled, it's 450. No fear, sir. They may be trusted to take care of themselves." I began to think so too, and forgot my disappointment in endeavouring to calculate the difference of profit, say on two thousand bushels, at nineteen shillings and twelve guineas.

FIELD BOTANY AND THE BICYCLE

If you have mastered the *flora* of your parish or district, go get a bicycle. The wayside flowers will not wait to suit your vacation. The weather is fickle, and does not always fall in with the humour of natural history excursions.

Indeed, it has been calculated that in our cloudy clime there are only about forty really fine nights in a year for astronomical observations, and it is questionable if there are many more days suitable for field botany. Better wade up a mountain stream, angling, than through woods and meadows, all wet, while you are peeping, stooping, and collecting.

The long days around Midsummer give eight or nine hours' daylight in the afternoon, and with an untiring horse that can carry us at the rate of ten to thirteen miles an hour, that can wait patiently at the meadow stile, at the side of the wood, or at the base of the hill, until we have satisfied our curiosity or secured our specimens, we can make way at a rate which good old Linnaeus never dreamed of. Here you have a potent agent, helping you to weave a variegated garland.

Humboldt exults over the opportunity afforded the naturalist in the Peruvian Andes of studying as he ascends from the equatorial plains to the snow line an epitome of the beauty of the earth and the grandeur of the sky. Now the contour of our island presents a somewhat similar advantage. How much more monotonous would have been its vegetation had it stretched lengthways from east to west! To make the contrast between north and south more striking it so happens that the greatest elevations are in the north, so that from the almost Continental *flora* of the Channel counties, we meet in the Highlands of Scotland Alpine and sub-Alpine plants.

Flora's beauties do not congregate at fashionable localities. Many of them are sporadic in their dispersion, and one half of the game is to know where to find them. Of course there are always industrious collectors who will show you lots of curious plants in gardens or in herbariums. But the genuine field botanist has little to do with these. The painter of animals prefers to sketch the hawk while hovering, the fawn while at play, the thrush as it sings on the thorn. So we wish to catch wild flowers in their *habitats*, and feel our hearts beat quicker as we encounter for the first time a plant, so long talked of, but never seen, that it has filled our imagination as Yarrow unvisited did that of Wordsworth. Besides, where can we see the pale roseate transparent flower of cranberry, save in its moist bogs, gleaming in beautiful contrast to the green moss on which it lies? Where can we espy the pale lobelia, but in some dark tarn, whose issuing stream is nearly covered with the white petals of the water ranunculus? The fringed corolla of the graceful bog-bean often rises from a bed of slime.

Slow-moving streams in dreary moss-hags glow with the chalices of white and of yellow lilies. Majestic reeds, pendulous carices, bright plantains require that we should wade for them; and sub-Alpine ferns, like the green spleen-wort, must be courted by dint of climbing. Well do we recollect the first hour ever we recognised herb-Paris. The day was a scorching one for August. Hay-makers were busy in a neighbouring field. A little troutling stream leaped over primitive rocks, and formed a deep glen, clothed with birch, hazel, and other natural woods, nearly opposite the miller's mill. There was a pool in which it would be delightful to float, with damp lichen rocks, mossy banks, and trees clothed with ivy and polypody for a screen. So we ventured down through clouds of droning flies, and with a lazy blackbird whistling now and again as in a dream. It was in clambering up the sides of this glen we espied our *Paris-quadrifolia*, with its four big oval leaves and its blue-black berry, looking like, and yet unlike to its image, as portrayed in our nursery picture-book. We were not a little aggrieved afterwards with that escape from a garden theory which so easily disposes of anything uncommon; but, this very season, we had an opportunity of dealing this theory a pretty blow by discovering on Cairnmore of Fleet, 1,500 ft. high, the French willow or rose bay, waving its purple racemes over cliffs and weathered granite, miles away from the meanest kail-yard, and yet *Epilobium angustifolium* is said, one text book copying another, to be an escape from gardens.

Chiefly by aid of the bicycle we can within the same day pluck samphire from the sea-facing cliffs, the arum from the courts of old castles, and the true celandine from the walls of a ruined monastery. By its aid we may reach the base of some mighty mountain near the sea, and after stabling our steed leave plants, such as thrift and scurvy-grass, besprinkled with the brine of the ocean, again to meet them three thousand feet high near the summit of our mountain. It is a strange sisterhood, not easily explained,

that of plants found only on the sea-shore and on the summits of our highest hills.

Or by aid of our fleet car we may weave together spring and summer by setting out from our home among the hills, the wheels crushing the shed catkins of alder, willow, hazel, and poplar, and our eye still regaled with clumps of primroses at the woodside, anemones in the dry fields, marsh marigolds and globe-flowers by the watercourses, till lower down we meet with hyacinths, and geraniums, and veronics in bloom, hawthorns about to burst, and the snow-white blossoms of the sloe, in the upper reaches, where the noisy child-river is at play, changed in the vales to the colour of burned rags. So also we may leave summer behind us, later on in the season, to meet after a score of miles of gradual descent the berries and pods of autumn.

No doubt our bicycle has its risks. It is not funny to have it smashed miles away from the nearest railway station, with a nose, the result of a cropper, veiling with the hue of the blood geranium. But this is more frequently the penalty of rashness than of timidity, and, with patience and care, need not occur.

The specimens are best brought home in a light portfolio of paste-board, with a leathern cover, enclosing a few sheets of coarse paper, and swung by straps over the shoulder, which is better than the old-fashioned tins. A spud is useful, for the root of a plant is sometimes the most characteristic part of it, and an entire specimen should always be secured. No true naturalist will rob a locality of rare plants. It is like blowing out the lights of a pilgrim's shrine. Not only the lakes of Killarney and the hills of Clova, but many localities full of natural beauty, would escape being visited, unless they boasted of gems that can be fashioned in no laboratory, flowers that can be wrought in no loom.

J. S.

OUR BOOKS

AMIDST the pelting shower of new publications which rattles about his ears at each fresh book season, the man might be thought paradoxical who expressed a doubt whether new books, in the one true sense of new contributions—the best in their kind the writers have to give—towards the common store of human thought, are not in truth less numerous every year. The falling-off in works of widest interest, which all must have noticed in the last two seasons, may doubtless have arisen in part from accidental causes. Is it not also, however, to a great extent a symptom of a more deep-seated disease? Such an inference is by no means inconsistent with an ever increasing production of new books of another kind—*bibliæ abibla*, "books that are no books," as we fear Charles Lamb would have called them, which men dip into carelessly, turn over rapidly, retain for reference, do everything with but read and re-read for secret pleasure in them—books which may be treated as tools or toys, but never as familiar friends. It follows indeed naturally from the changed conditions to which writers and readers are increasingly subjected, the restless haste, the worrying impatience, the imperious limitations of the special grooves within some one or other of which all literary activity tends more and more to become confined.

The making of a book fitted, if fortune is but moderately kind, to survive for a respectable term of years—who was it calculated that out of every thousand new books some five might reasonably hope for the comparative immortality of a couple of generations?—must be, under any circumstances, an affair of time and labour. It is of all literary enterprises at once the most arduous and the least certain of remuneration. Its author literally gives hostages to fortune; and must reckon less and less with every year on the chance of finding ready audience. What wonder if some begin to shrink from the adventure?

When, thirty years ago, the late Lord Lytton held up to our gaze the pretty picture of grave Augustine Caxton patiently devoting every hour that could be spared from the parental training of the young Pisistratus to the slow elaboration of his *magnum opus*, his grand "History of Human Error," we all confessed that such an occupation, although even then a little old-fashioned, had still a claim to our sympathetic respect. Twenty years later, when Mr. Burnand's hero made notes in and out of season for his projected "Typical Developments" in two dozen volumes we felt at once that we were in the region of broad comedy. A similar bit of stage-play at the present hour would have hardly sufficient *vraisemblance* for a farce.

Prodigious, in truth, as is the literary energy of the present generation, there is much in the position alike of authors and of readers unfavourable to the production of the ideal book. It might be going too far to assert that increasing numbers approach each year the intellectual condition of that still more restless and business-worried people who made it their boast to Martin Chuzzlewit, "We have no time for reading mere notions. We don't mind them if they come to us in newspapers along with almighty strong stuff of another sort—but darn your books." Though there are some who suspect that the true reader—the devotee of one or two good books—is not a type that multiplies as the world speeds on. It is the older generation among working-men, not the brand-new products of the School Boards, who have some one great writer—Scott among novelists, Hood or Burns among songsters—at their fingers' ends, is the complaint of Thomas Wright, the "Working Engineer," in the *Contemporary*. Who buy books now? asks in effect another writer in *Temple Bar*. We subscribe to Smith's or Mudie's; we read a page or two and let the volume go. Who look with expectation for the publishers' lists? Only we fear the professional reviewer, taking stock of the coming harvest much as the Liverpool broker looks for first intelligence from the Cotton States, or Mark Lane men for the "forecasts" of Mr. Caird.

No doubt, too, authors even of the abler sort fall easily enough into the new ways where there is necessarily less of the *limæ labor*, and where the motto is "Small profits and quick returns." For writing, or attempting to write, for posterity takes, as we have seen, no little time. It is much easier if a man has anything to say to say it quickly in magazine or review—monthly not quarterly review for choice, for here again we must keep well up with the stream. The fugitive essay on some topic of the day can be dashed off in half the time it took the older author to correct his proofs and add an index. It will "pay" better in proportion, and be much more likely to secure readers. What matter if it be thin of substance and hurried in composition; if it give dribbles instead of full streams of thought, and flashes as from a dark lantern in lieu of the mild and steady gleam of the study lamp; if its memory even pass away while the editor's cheque is still burning in the writer's pocket? It has been served up hot, if not strong, and has at least supplied the demand of the moment. Delay for thought to ripen, and all the interest of the subject may escape. A book some hours behind the chit-chat of the day is a book which has already lost half its market chance.

All this prevents not a yearly flood-tide of new books, but—poetry and fiction set aside—they are books, as a rule, of a very different type from those whose paucity we have been regretting. Students' books, books of scientific research, from light catalogues of "common objects" or of the hedge-rows to ponderous discussions on "the Unknowable" or "the Unconditioned," books transparently amplified out of lectures and addresses, books to save time, like the wonderful little volumes which will put the essence of Hume or of Descartes into a hundred pages of duodecimo, and still have fifty pages left to tell all that is thought nowadays worth telling of their lives—these, with the never-failing Travels and Biographies, make up the main body of the great army of current literature. Many, it is fair to say, are wonderfully good. Books of travel certainly begin to pall upon us. We have gone round the world so

many times that we sigh for a new author of a new *Voyage autour de ma Chambre*. We have floated upon floes of Polar ice, balanced ourselves upon Al Sirat bridges over fathomless abysses of Alps or Andes, crossed the Dark Continent so very often, and talked (by proxy) so very long with hairy Ainos and tall Patagonians, that all seems stale "from China to Peru." Biographies, too, though never likely to run short while human vanity is a fixed quantity, are far off in these days from our old ideal. It is so easy to fill chapters with half-sorted heaps of miscellaneous correspondence, and season pages of fluent adulation with piquant chronicles of the daily tea-table; so hard to wait and sift and analyse, till out of all this monstrous mass can be evolved the likeness of the real man; that the author is apt to cast the latter and harder portion of his task upon the readers, and readers, not to be behind with him, pick out a plum or two of gossip, then drop for ever the volumes and the subject.

But among the other books there is often much to be found which charms one at the outset. Old folks who went to school in barbarous times when Germany was an unexplored land, and the spider hung her web in Rolls and Record Offices, and when the art of boiling down into a light and toothsome soup the massive bones of half-a-dozen Brewers or Max Müllers was scarcely known, or at least rarely practised, are positively stricken dumb at the ingenious way in which all manner of fruit from the tree of knowledge is dressed up in conserves for *blasé* palates, and at the speed with which (in hardly longer time than a slower-moving generation would have taken to admire the pattern of its coloured wrapper) one dainty volume will have summed up and labelled and laid aside for us (not to be touched again) in some mental drawer a Leonardo or a Michael Angelo, and another have disposed of Saint Simon or Voltaire in not many more pages than they wrote volumes. Still, excellent as these works may be if viewed in the light of literary *tours de force*, they are not our old type and conception of a book. Rather do they add fuel to our suspicion that for all our skill at condensing and compiling, or even writing smart commentary upon passing events, the book *par excellence* is a slowly matured fruit, which needs for the ripening an amount of time and care our fast-living age is less and less disposed to spend upon it.

TALPA



MR. HENRY SOLLY'S "James Woodford, Carpenter and Chartist" (2 vols. : Sampson Low and Co.), is an exceedingly well-meant attempt to bring about a better understanding between what Lord Beaconsfield called "The Two Nations." Unquestionably few writers know the British workman better than Mr. Solly; and, equally beyond question, he has chosen the very worst method of imparting his knowledge. People who want fiction will think his politics a nuisance: readers who have his subject at heart will not thank him for putting them off with exceeding clumsy fiction. In his introductory letter to Professor Seeley he says that he wrote this novel because he had been advised by the Professor to write his personal recollections of the Chartist movement in the form of a history. He states, moreover, that the Professor objects to mingling history and fiction. If he were a second Charles Kingsley he would be right, and Professor Seeley wrong; but he is nothing of the kind. His attempt to dramatise his recollections has only the effect of altogether depriving them of their value, and of even giving them a childish air. None of his characters seem to live: they talk like puppets and act in conventional grooves. It is a real misfortune that Mr. Solly should have thrown away an admirable opportunity for writing a work of immediate interest and permanent value, for Chartist recollections from the pen of fair-minded men are lamentably few. Of qualifications for writing history he has many: of those for writing fiction, apparently none. He is accurate, impartial, and enthusiastic within reasonable bounds, but he is wanting both in fancy and in humour, and in the creative imagination which finds life where common eyes only see dry bones. His preface and his appendices are by far the most interesting and valuable portions of his two volumes. We may trust, however, that a writer of whom a Lancashire mill-hand has said "That gentelfolk knaw nowt aboot us—'cept Solly—he do knaw summat," will not be satisfied for long with turning the Chartist movement into a common-place love story. And so we agree with Professor Seeley—he should preserve for our instruction what he has himself seen and known, without spoiling it by trying to give it pointless, needless, and worse than useless colour.

Mrs. Lean, known to most novel-readers as Florence Marryat, appears to be altogether indifferent to literary reputation. She always now writes as if she had a violent, one-sided personal quarrel with the world, and as if her whole desire were to give the whole world a piece of her mind. To judge from "My Sister the Actress" (3 vols. : F. V. White and Co.), her last grievance seems to be that society, while bowing down before successful actresses, considers those who have yet to make their way as beyond its pale. No doubt the ordinary British household is not particularly eager for an intimacy with ladies who play subordinate parts in country theatres. The common mind has not the power of discovering unproved genius, or of separating essential virtues from doubtful surroundings. Nor does society in general place the profession of the stage so high as to accord it privileges denied to painters, authors, lawyers, surgeons, and tradesmen. Unsuccessful, or not yet successful, men and women in all professions have to wait for social acceptance at their own value, or else to live on without it, until they can prove their right to obtain it. But they do not therefore cry out against the injustice of a rather careless world: and we cannot think that actors and actresses in general will thank Mrs. Lean for placing them in the position of exceptional victims. There are, no doubt, special prejudices against the stage, both reasonable and unreasonable; but to assert that they amount to a sentence of social degradation and exclusion upon actors and actresses is simply extravagantly and ridiculously untrue. Incapacity to perceive the truth of things is Mrs. Lean's fatal misfortune. She flies into a passion with a world of her own invention: she never guesses that even the smallest question has a second side: and her absolute want of humour prevents her from seeing the comic side of a scold. She is not quite so severe as usual upon the brutal and contemptible class of things called husbands, contenting herself with a single specimen of the type in the person of Betha's father. But she is true to her theory that every woman ought to be allowed to do whatever she pleases without suffering any of the recognised consequences, and that society is at fault if she feels aggrieved. To take the faintest interest in the characters whom Mrs. Lean seems to hold up for sympathetic admiration has long been impossible. At the same time "My Sister the Actress" is less deformed by positive bad taste than usual, and some remnant of Florence Marryat's early brightness is to be found in her portraiture of Kate Montalembert, who is amusing and natural. She should consider that a public which accepts her present work for the sake of her past cannot be so very ill-natured after all.

"Fickle Fortune" (2 vols. : Bentley and Son), excellently translated from the German by Christina Tyrrell, is not one of the happiest of Werner's novels. The author has made a violent effort to go out of the beaten paths of German fiction with the result of being less original than disagreeable. The author is, for once, not

open to the charge of self-repetition, but this is at the cost, to the reader, of the pleasure which the old paths have so constantly afforded. A son's loss of faith in his mother's virtue is treated with a certain amount of sentimental pathos, but certainly not with the amount of tragedy needful to make the psychology of the situation worth expression. German sentiment always requires a rather peculiar taste on the part of a foreigner for its appreciation: but the taste required for an appreciation of "Fickle Fortune" must be exceptionally peculiar.



THE WILD CLEMATIS is very rich in blossom this August along our country hedgerows. It flourishes on many different soils, and being so widespread in its range of growth has gathered to itself from different counties as many names as the oldest families of our old nobility. "Traveller's Joy" is here its name, "Old Man" there. "Lady's" and "The Virgin's" Bower prevail with some, while "Smoke Wood" and "Hedge Vine" are the leading names in the flower nomenclature of others. Its leaves are acid, and their juice rubbed on the skin tends to produce sores. The cultivated clematis in its various colours and forms has also been suited by the season, and makes in gardens a very goodly show.

POTATOES as a crop generally look very well, and lift very well. There is a little disease in the Lake District, in Devonshire, in Cornwall, and in parts of Ireland, but on the whole there is a remarkable immunity from this pestilential invasion. In Ireland there is a very large yield, though the Champions have not done so well as was expected. From mid-England an opposite report comes, for we hear from Leicestershire that the Champions have made an extraordinary growth. The Magnum Bonums are also very good. In the Home Counties the tubers are rather small, but of specially good quality.

"WALKS IN ENGLAND" is the title of one of those delightful rural articles which appear—alas! too rarely—in the *Quarterly Review*. The breezy South Downs, the desolate Dartmoor Tors, and the refreshing air of the Derbyshire Peaks are all brought before us, and particular notice is directed to the country wanderings of George Borrow, whose death, but a few days ago, severs us from one of the not least considerable figures of an older generation. "Walks in England" do not show us so many genuine gipsies as they did when Borrow was young. We wish, however, that we saw a similar diminution in the number of ordinary cadgers and tramps.

CORN FLOWERS.—Not only is a corn-field a beautiful sight for the rich waving of the golden wheat or the silvery barley, but the wild flowers that grow among the corn are themselves very beautiful. The red poppy is peculiarly the harvest flower. Sometimes we see the red of the poppy absolutely predominating over the yellow of the corn. Such a sight is not welcome to the farmer, but he is glad to see a fair sprinkling of poppies, for he thinks they bring him luck. The blue *Centaurea*, or "Hurt-sickle," affords fine contrast to the scarlet flower, but this plant, while it may please the artist, is the farmer's bane. Its wiry stems take the edge off the sickle, and even clog the machines.

FISHING.—There has been a very large run of salmon up the Chester Dee. Salmon at Chester has been selling as low as 9d. a pound.—There have been very heavy takings of bream in Norfolk of late.—A Tay salmon, weighing 52 lbs., and in length 52 inches, was sold last week to a Bond Street fishmonger.—Very large hauls of grise have recently been made in the Forth, both above and below Stirling.—The Irish lakes have been in first-rate order, yet takes of fish have been disappointing.—The general take of fish in the Tay this season has been decidedly poor.

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AGRICULTURAL SHOW was held last week at Wisbech in fair weather. The horses were a leading feature of the exhibition. Mr. Mott of Littleport, and Mr. Horrell of Thorney, were very successful exhibitors of cart-horses, while the prize for the best weight-carrying stallion was carried off by Mr. D. Ward, of Haddenham.

THE HUNTINGDON AGRICULTURAL SHOW was held last week at Hinchingsbrook, the seat of the Earl of Sandwich. The horses were a specially good show; of other animals, the display was under average. The jumping was not very successful. Viscount Hinchingbrook and Mr. A. J. Thornhill spoke at the dinner.

KENT was gay last week with the brilliant gathering of cricketers and society at Canterbury, and with several successful flower shows in different parts of the county. The weather during the Canterbury week was fine and hot, yet with a fairly strong wind blowing. Yalding Flower and Fruit Show was well attended, and there was a very pleasant meeting at Sutton Valence, when on the occasion of the horticultural exhibition the park of Sir Edmund Filmer, M.P., was thrown open to the public. An event of a very different character was the destructive fire at Wrotham, whereby the model farm of Mr. Rigg was burnt to the ground.

THE MANCHESTER FLOWER SHOW, which opens on the 24th of this month, promises to be a very important meeting. Lovers of flowers and gardens would do well to make a week's visit, in which they could go twice or thrice to the Central Show, also visiting while in the neighbourhood the Earl of Ellesmere's gardens at Worsley, Lord Egerton's gardens at Tatton, and the Earl of Crawford's gardens at Wigan. Other leading lovers of plants in the neighbourhood are Mr. Broome and Mr. Brockbank of Didsbury, Dr. Ainsworth of Broughton, Mr. Leach of Fallowfield, Mr. Hardy of Timperley, and Mr. Birley of Pendleton. Some of these gentlemen own really splendid collections of orchids.

TWO GENUINE LOVERS OF FLOWERS have just passed away. Mr. W. Sharpe was well known in Scotland. His talent ranged through the whole field of gardening. Mr. Abraham Holmes, the parish clerk of Wakefield, was a famous talker on flower lore. In actual cultivation, he was more especially known for his carnations.

A SLIGHT FROST was recorded on the morning of the 27th of July, at Heytesbury, in Wiltshire, while on the 30th, in the still milder climate of Teignmouth, Devon, the minimum glass showed a fall to 34 deg.

RAM SALES.—Mr. Charles Howard's recent ram sale at Biddenham was very largely attended. A splendid lot of Oxfordshire Down shearing rams was submitted for sale. At Bedford there was a ram sale at an almost coincident date. This too was well attended, and very satisfactory prices were realised.

FANCY FARMERS.—A contemporary makes a spirited rejoinder to the derision customarily cast on "fancy farmers." "These men," it says, "have given to farming a glory it would not otherwise possess. Fancy farmers have changed the wild hog into the Suffolk and Berkshire, the cattle into shorthorns, the mountain sheep with its lean body and hair fleece into the southdown and merino. They brought up the milk of cows from pints to gallons, they have lengthened the sirloin of the bullock, enlarged the ham of the hog, given strength to the shoulder of the ox, and added fleetness to the horse. Foreign manures and foreign plants we have at the hands of those who tested theories while others raised crops for market."



"THE LAST MOMENTS OF THE GIRONDISTS, 1793"

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PICTURE BY CARL THEODOR VON PILOTY, PUBLISHED BY THE BERLIN PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY



THE living voice is, indeed, vastly superior to the more printed record. But Dr. Vaughan's "Temple Sermons" (Macmillan) are so good—so unlike sermons in general—that they disappoint far less than do most volumes of the discourses of famous preachers. For his hearers they will revive impressions too precious to be lost; to those who have not heard him, and who, therefore, will not miss the charm of look and manner, they will explain a part (though only a part) of the secret of his quiet but powerful influence over so many minds. Very spiritual, these sermons are also intensely practical, while their freshness of thought, and the new light they throw on old difficulties, make them (we use the word advisedly) deeply interesting. As a fair sample of the writer's manner we may note the sermon on David's numbering the people. The baffling mystery of the story is recognised in a way which to some narrow minds will savour of over-free handling; and then the whole matter is made in the most natural way to teach the life lesson which the careless reader would never draw from it. Grand, indeed as grand as any sermon we ever read, is that on "Purity," with which may be classed "The Two Ambitious" and "Real and Unreal Consolations." Dr. Vaughan is quite awake to the needs of the time; and what he says of "difficulties in Providence mitigated by Revelation" is sure to be helpful to many to whom his remarks on the human element in the Bible will prove that godliness need not be purblind or unreasoning.

Of "Links and Clues," by "Vita" (Macmillan), we must not say much. It is a book for the closet, not for the reviewer's desk. It is mainly occupied with the most awful subject on which the mind of man can dwell; and, if it helps to warn any how much gross selfishness (that is ungodliness) there is in a great deal of popular Christianity, it will not have been written in vain. Of the three views of the after-state of the wicked—eternal punishment, annihilation, cleansing fires—"Vita" takes the last; and very powerful and suggestive is the language in which the identity of love and fire is insisted on. "Fire is the only thing which can touch pitch with impunity; that which is burnt is foul, and so is the smoke of its burning; but fire itself is always pure. . . . The fire of hell, the one only form of good which the clingers to evil can receive, and the fire of the Holy Spirit are one and the same: the response, that which the fire calls out, only varying." Very impressive, too, is the passage on "the beatific vision" and "the two heavens," though it suffers from being cast in the mould of George MacDonald's writings. The questions here opened up are occupying many minds; and readers of Jukes and Canon Farrar, and Bickersteth's "Yesterday, To-Day, and For Ever," cannot fail to be interested in "Links and Clues." Baxter (truly medieval in this and other things) held that the saints at rest have their bliss enhanced by seeing the tortures of the wicked punished afar off. To wake up out of a rapturous *Nirvana* to the sense of this punishment and to agonising sympathy with those who are bearing it, "Vita" takes to be the higher heaven of the truly Christlike. Tauler and Madame Guyon and Maurice, and others, have said much the same; but it is well to see how one of our own generation expresses it. The book has, we are told, the imprimatur of Bishop Lightfoot and Canon Westcott; whereas the annihilation view is condemned even by the "broadest" of our Bishops.

A child who masters Mrs. Sarah Brook's "French History for English Children" (Macmillan) will know a good deal more of the subject than some who take up "Law and Modern History" at Oxford. He will also learn a good deal which his after reading may lead him to disbelieve—about Gauls dressing in nothing but paint, for instance, and Druids cutting mistletoe with a golden knife. Roman Catholics, too, will object to the definition of Jesuits, and to the explanation that an indulgence is the Pope's pardon for a dead man's sins. There are also misprints—"Roman Catholics," on p. 279, where "Huguenots" is clearly meant; "Cadondal" for "Cadoudal," &c. And misprints are specially staggering to children. "Peaces," too, is harsh, if not wholly un-English; and we protest against not naming a man to whom pages of description are devoted. This is done over and over again, notably in the case of Enguerrand of Marigny. Names help children's memories; it is no help to them to be over-simple in explanation, as when "tortured" is said to be "hurt very much with horrible machines made on purpose." To the child who needs help like that, the very excellent and numerous maps which distinguish this work from older rivals, such as Mrs. Markham and Miss Corner, would be useless. Still, we take the book to be the best of its kind. It is full of germs of wisdom which, in good soil, will take firm root. Thus it is well for a child to learn betimes that the first Bourbon was the idiot-brother of Philip III. (his name Robert is, as usual, suppressed), and to have its attention fixed on the evident madness of Charles IX., and the startling brevity of Henry IV.'s reign, and how the weakening of the nobles made them powerless when Louis XVI. needed their help. We note several facts in Mrs. Brook's "History" which are not noticed in "The Student's France."

Mr. W. Frazer Rae has republished his letters to *The Times* about "Canada's Maritime, Mining, and Prairie Provinces;" and his "Newfoundland to Manitoba" (Sampson Low) is specially interesting now that English farming is under a cloud. Mr. Rae thoroughly believes in Manitoba, and points out that its fertility is beyond doubt, for Highland farmers have been thriving there since 1812. Grasshoppers are a nuisance, but less so than in Minnesota; spring floods are the greatest evil, and demand a comprehensive drainage system. Of the Far West—Rapid City, Battleford, &c., he speaks even more enthusiastically than of Manitoba. A Herefordshire man who came out in 1879 has got an earthly Paradise for 33/-; and "all the practical farmers have done well." Mr. Rae's sketches of the older colonies are very picturesque. New Brunswick has clearly not been sufficiently appreciated; the terms on which land is offered there are easier than in any other part of the New World. A small colony of Irish settled there in 1842 "on teetotal principles," has succeeded wonderfully, and surely the experiment might be repeated with advantage in a score of places. Here is a golden opportunity for the true lover of the West Connaught peasantry. Paying gold-mines in Nova Scotia will astonish many of us, as will Mr. Rae's idea that the Canadian Pacific Railway cannot compete as a highway for farm produce with the Mississippi. The West Canada farmer must, he thinks, use the water route by Hudson's Bay.

Mr. Flower's lecture on "Fashion in Deformity" (Macmillan) is timely in these days of high heels and narrow waists. If he trots out the old torso of the Venus of Melos and the cuts which show how strait-lacing squeezes wholly out of shape the framework of the ribs, there is a reason for his so doing. "Seest thou not what a deformed thief this Fashion is?" is as true now as it was in Shakespeare's day. We exclaim against the Chinese; but Mr. Flower proves that in the matter of feet they may well say *Tu quoque*. The strange custom of head-flattening, now confined to some Polynesians and to certain Indian tribes, seems to have once existed over a great part of Europe, though it is uncertain whether these pre-historic head-flatteners were Mongols or Aryan Cimmerians. Some of us must have seen in France and Belgium (if not also in Norfolk) a survival of the same custom in the *bouret* which French physicians look on as the parent of so many ills. We heartily recommend the little

book; and only wish we could hope that it would cure people of wearing fashionable boots and fashionable corsets.

We quite agree with the compiler of the "Wit and Wisdom of Lord Beaconsfield" (Longmans) that "it would be easy to compile other volumes equally wise and witty." We will go further, and say that a very much better selection might readily be made; for this book, alphabetically arranged, often gives a word instead of a thought as the *motif* of the passage. Under "feeling," for instance, it is as strange to find: "Nothing makes one so thirsty as listening to a song (at a music-hall), particularly if it touches the feelings," as under "man" to be told "Men do not like to be baulked when they think they are doing a very kind and magnanimous thing." One has to think twice, too, before one would look under "Hampshire" for that President of so many learned societies and his invalid wife whom one remembers in "Tancred." But one may find fault with every system of arrangement; and, if we turn to "Peel," we are certainly not disappointed. All the classical dagger-thrusts at "the political Petruchio who had tamed the shrew of Liberalism," are faithfully given. Indeed, the compiler's industry has brought together most, if not all, Disraeli's good things, as well as the flowers of Lord Beaconsfield's maturer wisdom. There is plenty from the earlier works, works which even after our recent loss a good many of us have not re-read. We are grateful for such a reminder of what we did once read with pleasure, and would gladly have kept unforgetting. From "Books of Beauty," as well as from "Venetia" the compiler has culled a good deal of poetry; for Disraeli wrote verses, though even, when quite young, in "Contarini Fleming" he protested that the age of versification was past. The selection comes out very opportunely.

The ninth and tenth volumes of the Charles Dickens' *édition de luxe*, published by Chapman and Hall (Limited), and printed by Messrs. R. Clay, Sons, and Taylor, are devoted to "David Copperfield." Many persons (ourselves among the number) hold that this story is the great novelist's masterpiece, and it has the advantage of being illustrated throughout by Mr. Hablot Browne, perhaps altogether the most congenial artist who ever worked with Dickens. Owing to admirable printing, the plates appear to us to possess a delicacy and clearness which they did not exhibit even in the original green monthly instalments, and the reader is once more delighted to shake hands (as it were) with such immortals as Betsy Trotwood, Peggotty, Traddles, and Micawber.

There is perhaps nothing more significant of the vitality of the present Art revival than the daily increasing additions to artistic literature. The latest, a very elaborately got-up book of this kind, is Mr. John Leighton's "Suggestions in Design" (Blackie and Son), which we venture to think will prove of no small value to modern workers in the industrial and decorative arts. There are upwards of a hundred quarto pages of careful and highly-finished drawings of well-nigh every style of ornament, arranged in chronological groups for easy reference; and though we cannot justly say that any of them bear a distinct stamp of originality—originality in design is only too rare nowadays—yet they all have qualities, either of quaintness, richness, simplicity, or classic grace, which give them high worth. The world's whole Art history has been drawn upon to supply these "suggestions," which consequently furnish a sort of bird's-eye view of the development of design, from the rough primitive forms of savage tribes to the voluptuous richness of the Renaissance. Besides this, surely no mean feat of skill and industry, there are a whole host of sketches, symbolical figures, floral designs, chimeras, trophies, letters and monograms, and numerous ideas applicable to such latter-day luxuries as date-plates and the like. The book, which is most handsomely produced, also contains some extremely interesting and well-written descriptive and historical matter by Mr. J. K. Collings, which gives a double attraction to the volume, and possesses much instructive value. Mr. Leighton is to be heartily congratulated on the completion of a work involving so much careful research, so wide a knowledge, and such artistic skill.

CHAPTER HOUSE, WESTMINSTER ABBEY

PERHAPS no building in this country is more closely connected with the history and origin of our liberties than the Chapter House of Westminster. Within the walls of this most exquisite and graceful edifice was assembled the first meeting of the Commons of England, in the year 1265. How long the sittings of the House of Commons continued to be held exclusively in the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey does not seem to be quite certain. During the reign of Edward III. the Commons appear to have generally held their sittings in the "Painted Chamber" of the Palace; but Brayley, in his "Ancient Palace of Westminster," quotes an old Parliamentary Roll which, speaking of the two last Parliaments of that reign, states that they were ordered to withdraw "A lour ancienne place en la maison du Chapitre de l'Abbeie de Westminster."

At the time of the Reformation the Chapter House was seized by the Crown, together with the other Abbey buildings, and St. Stephen's Chapel was given over to the House of Commons, and continued to be so used until that building was destroyed by fire, 1834.

The Chapter House of Westminster Abbey was of course not erected to serve as a House of Commons, and it was probably only the accident of its being close to the Royal Palace that led to its being selected for this purpose. Matthew of Westminster gives the year 1250 as the date of its erection; but Neal, in his "History of Westminster Abbey," with some good reason throws doubt upon the accuracy of this date.

The Chapter House is situated in the position in which that structure is usually found in Benedictine monasteries, *i.e.*, it is at the east of the great cloister, from which its chief entrance is gained, and south of the church, near to the end of the transept. Like most of the larger buildings of the kind erected in England during the thirteenth century, it is octagonal in plan, and its vaulting supported upon a central column; it bears a striking resemblance the Chapter Houses of the Cathedrals of Salisbury and Wells.

Until its recent restoration by the late Sir Gilbert Scott, the great windows were blocked up with brickwork, and the whole covered by a low-pitched external roof; the vaulting had also been removed. It is now lighted by seven large four-light Gothic windows, with geometrical tracery, the eighth side being occupied by a fine double doorway, the jambs of which are ancient, but the centre column and sculpture above it are modern. A most beautifully-designed arcade of trefoil-headed arches surrounds the building in such a way as, together with a stone basement-table, to form a series of thirty-five stalls or seats, each separated from the next by a column of Purbeck marble. The backs of these stalls have originally been richly painted. The series under the east window has been filled by representations of Our Lord and the Evangelists, and those below the north-west window by some curious and interesting representations of the Revelation of St. John. Some of these paintings appear to have been originally executed in distemper, but have been painted over in oil, and touched up probably in the sixteenth century. The floor is composed of encaustic tiles for the most part ancient, as is also the exceedingly graceful central column. The vaulting, however, is modern, and was constructed under the direction of the late Sir Gilbert Scott. A double vestibule leads from the cloisters to this chapter-house; the inner one consists of a lofty vaulted Gothic passage, but the outer one is divided into two parts longitudinally by a row of small marble columns. Like the

Chapter House, the sides of this outer vestibule are arcaded so as to form a series of seats or stalls. The great entrance from this outer vestibule to the cloisters is a most magnificent double doorway, consisting of two orders of richly sculptured arches, the outer adorned with a "tree of Jesse," showing the genealogy of Our Lord from the father of David to Mary. The inner arch and the tympanum are carved in a conventional imitation of the mystic Vine. The mutilated fragments of three statues can be seen, but the centre one certainly is not in its original position, and the whole too damaged to be explained. The Chapter House and vestibule have been very judiciously arranged as a museum of archaeological remains discovered in the neighbourhood, the most interesting of which is the Roman sarcophagus found near North Green, Westminster. It is evidently a Christian work, from the cross on the lid, and seems to be a corroboration of the tradition that a church existed on or near the site of the present abbey in a very early period of the Christian era. The inscription upon this sarcophagus is as follows:—

MEMORIAE • VALER • AMAN
DINI • VALERI • SVPERVEN
TOR • ET • MARCELLVS • PATRI • FECER.

From which it appears that it was erected for a certain Valerius Amandinus by his sons.

Beneath the Chapter House is a singular crypt, heavily vaulted with a central column, which has greatly puzzled antiquarians. This curious column is hollow, and has two square openings, one above the other. The upper one has formerly been lined with iron, and the iron plate attached to its top still exists. What could have been the use of these curious apertures, it is impossible to say with any certainty, but they were probably for holding lamps. The crypt was probably nothing more nor less than a dungeon or prison. The square recess at the east end, which evidently contained an altar, and was screened off from the octagonal chamber with bars of iron or wood, the sockets for which can be distinctly traced, is by no means an uncommon feature in mediæval prisons, and a precisely similar prison oratory is to be seen in the Wakefield Tower of the Tower of London. We wonder whether troublesome members of Parliament were shut up here in the Middle Ages. It is far from improbable that some thirteenth or fourteenth century Obstructionists may have spent a few days in this not very disagreeable prison if the early Parliaments held their sittings in July. With the thermometer at 97° in the shade, any members who were committed to this charmingly cool prison deserved less pity than poor Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues sitting in the present crowded and not too well ventilated House of Commons. One of the many improvements effected at the Abbey by the late Dean Stanley was the throwing open to the public of this Chapter House and vestibule. The series of antiquities contained within the building were also arranged under his able direction.

H. W. BREWER



MESSRS. GODDARD AND CO.—A showy song for a school-room soprano, of the utility type, is, "The Wild Bird's Song," written and composed by Savaricus and Alfred Rawlings.—The same may be said for the budding pianiste of "Six Sacred Extracts" for the pianoforte, which are commonplace and not difficult arrangements, by Lindsay Sloper, of such familiar favourites as, No. 1, "My Heart is Faithful" (J. S. Bach); 2, "Ave Verum" (Mozart); 3, "La Carita" (Rossini); 4, "But the Lord is Mindful of His Own" (Mendelssohn); 5, "Benedictus" (Gounod); 6, that overworked "Prayer from *Mosé in Egitto*" (Rossini).—A brace of pianoforte pieces, which will, as they deserve to do, take a leading position in the drawing-room *répertoire* are: "Mon Rêve," a *romance sans paroles* by Henri Stiehl; and "Caprice Brillant," by Henri Logé.—We have already an extensive supply of excellent "tutors," "new systems," and "instruction books" for beginners and advanced students of the pianoforte, but there is yet room for so well compiled a work as "The New Graduated Method" for the pianoforte, by J. Goddard, which so thoroughly carries out what its title professes that the student advances almost imperceptibly, step by step.

MESSRS. ASHDOWN AND PARRY.—Three love songs, music by W. A. C. Cruickshank, may with advantage be added to the portfolios for the country visiting season; neither one nor the other is lacking in individuality. "My True Love Hath My Heart," the *naïve* words by Sir Philip Sidney, is of medium compass for a tender-hearted maiden, a charming little ballad; a reply to the above is, "Love Me Little, Love Me Long," the really pretty words of which are anonymous; the compass of this ballad is very limited within the middle octave. Most ambitious of the three is "Love Song," with German and English words, author not given; this song may be sung by either sex, but is more suitable for a baritone than a contralto as regards the enthusiastic sentiments.—"O, Hemlock Tree," one of Longfellow's popular poems, has been set to music with much taste and musicianly skill by Walter Macfarren, for a mezzo-soprano or baritone.—Both words and music of "Autumn Leaves" are worthy the attention of *débutantes* from the schoolroom who like something which does not treat of the tender passion.—Equally proper, but a trifle more dramatic, is "The Flower That Smiles To-day" (Mutability) one of Shelley's poems, which clothes truisms in such pleasing language as to make us condone the offence; the musical setting by John Storer, Mus. Bac. Oxon., is to be commended. From the same composer comes a "Nocturne Poétique" for the pianoforte, which well deserves its name.—"Would I Were With Thee" is a singable song for a tenor of medium compass, words from an unknown pen, music by Barry M. Gilholy.—"Two White Roses" is an ultra-thrilling love poem by B. M. Ranking, set to appropriate music by Edwin M. Lott, who has shown more originality as an instrumental composer in a *Suite de Pièces* than as a song writer.—"Gavotte," *Deuxième Air de Ballet*, by Lizzie Hartland, is a spirited if not remarkably original specimen of its type.—"Day Dream," an idyll for the pianoforte, by Emanuel Aguilar, is a graceful *morceau* for after-dinner execution, as is also "Spring Time," a reverie by Haydn Miller.—Three lively companions to the above are respectively: "Styrienne," by V. Adler; "The Wood Nymph's Revel," by R. A. Klitz; and "A Tambourine Dance," by F. Austin.

MISCELLANEOUS.—A four-part song, "Blow, Thou Soft West Wind," and an easy song for a tenor, "The Wandering Knight," are very fair compositions, music by Nita Guzman; the romantic words of the latter are by J. G. Lockhart, of the former they are unknown. "The Cross Bill"—who does not know Longfellow's touching setting of this beautiful legend?—has been very pleasingly set to music by R. F. Brion (Messrs. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co.).—"I Love Thee for Thy Gentle Voice," written and composed by A. A. Le Gros, and P. de Faye, is a gentle ballad of a very ordinary type (J. A. Mills).—"Father M'Crew," a would-be funny song, written and composed by Walter Spinney, will rather take from than add to his reputation (Messrs. Weekes and Co.).—The sentiments which influenced Mrs. M. Gorges and Sir R. P. Stewart to write and compose "The Saving of the Colours" are highly to be commended; the same cannot be said of their joint production (John Blockley).

DEATHS.

On May 10, at the residence of his father, Beauchamp, Port Chalmers, (1810), New Zealand, WILLIAM, eldest son of WILLIAM DALRYMPLE, late of Cupar Angus, Perthshire, N. H.

On the 2nd inst., at Rose Bank, Fairfax Road, Teddington, after a long illness, MORRIS CANTOR, of 23, Tavistock Square, London, formerly of Rio de Janeiro, aged 68 years. Deeply lamented by his relatives and friends. May his soul rest in peace.

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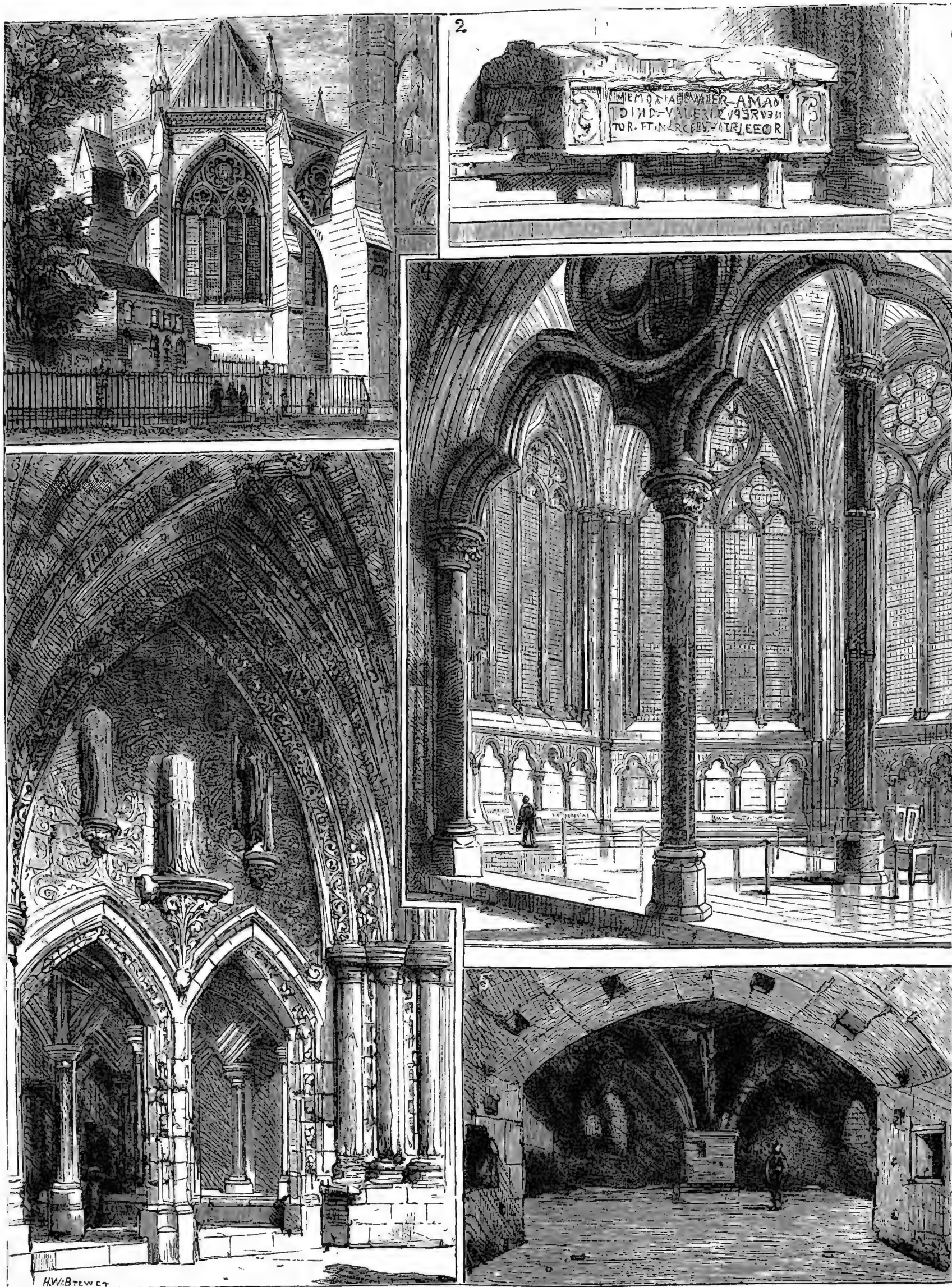
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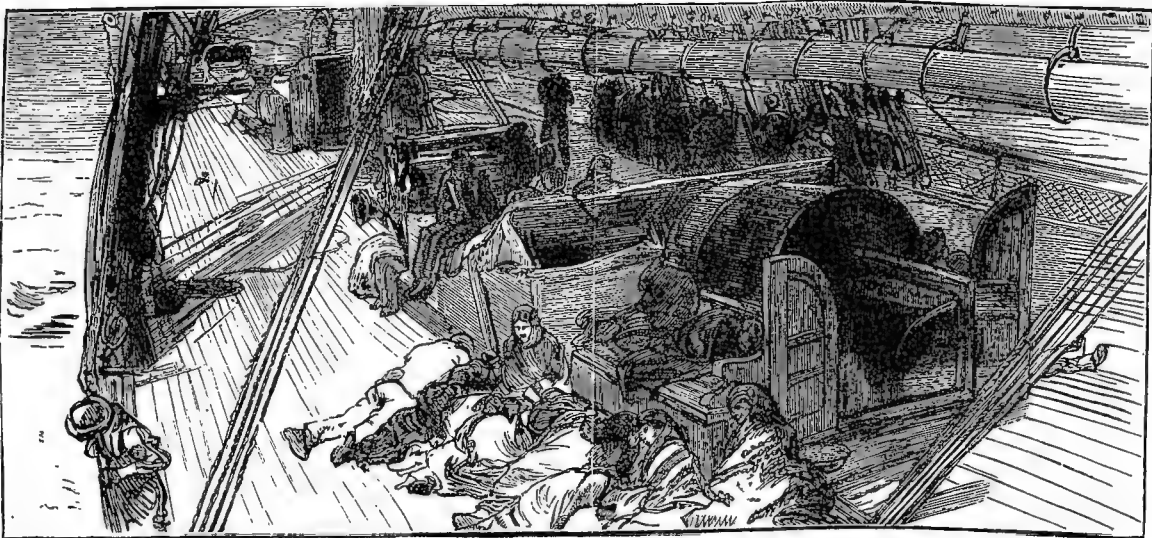
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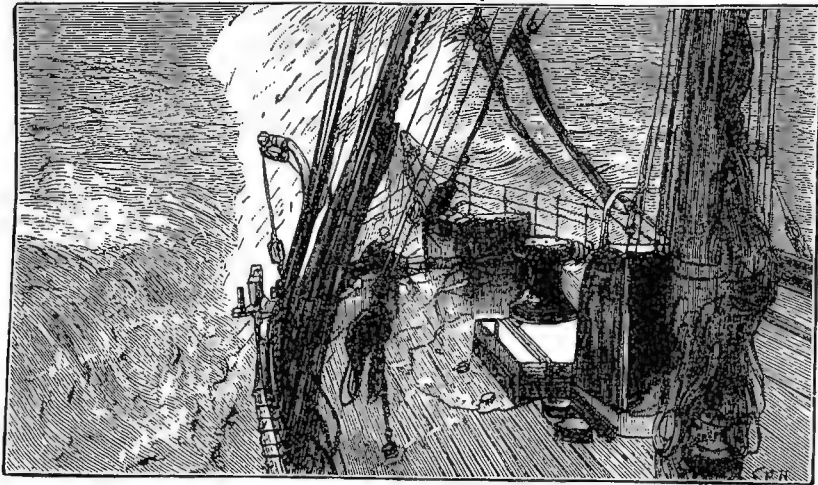
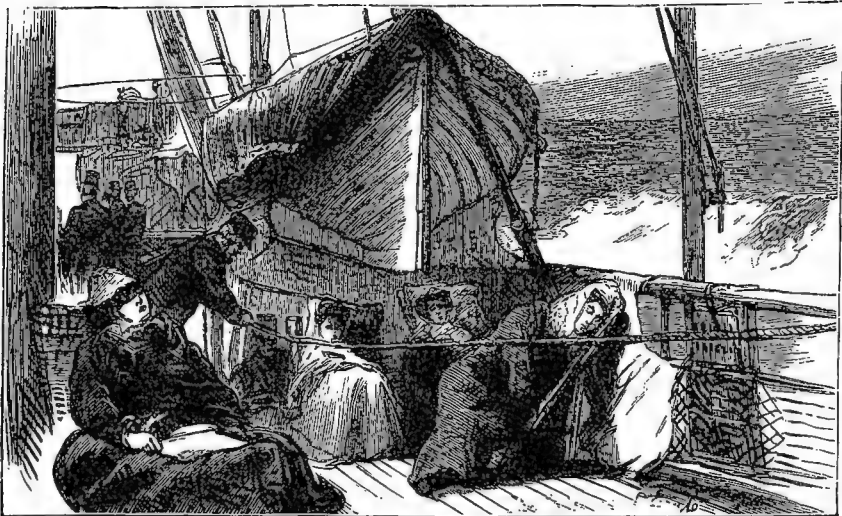
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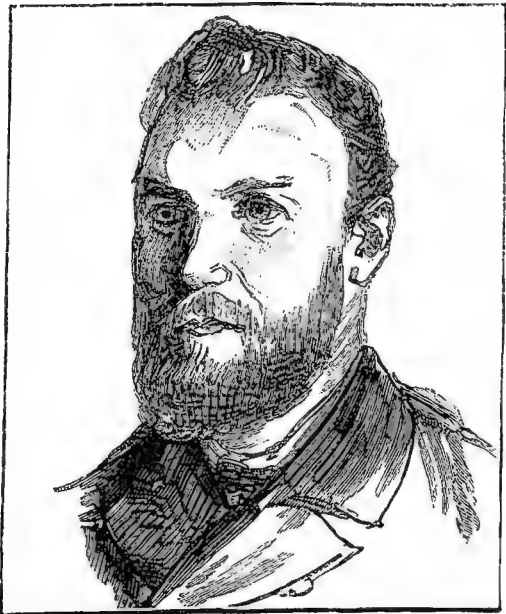
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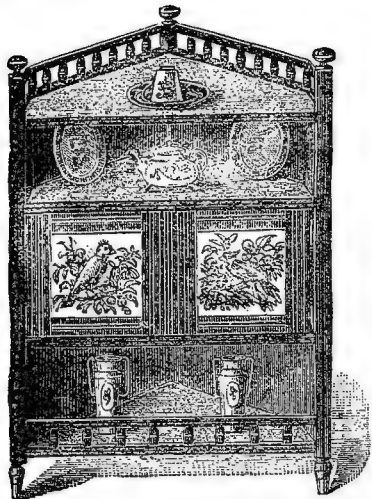
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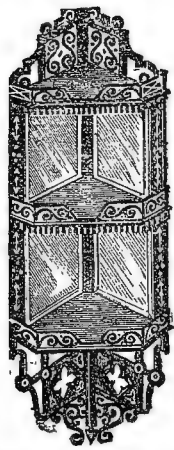
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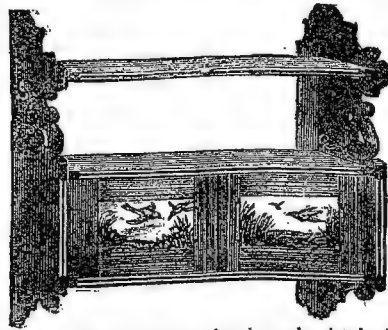
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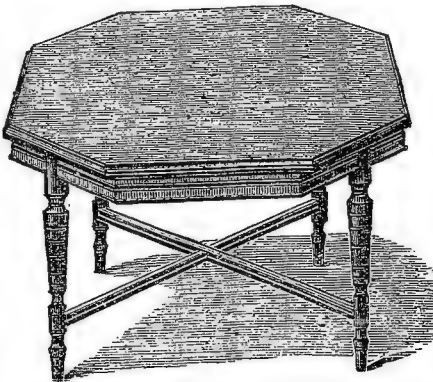
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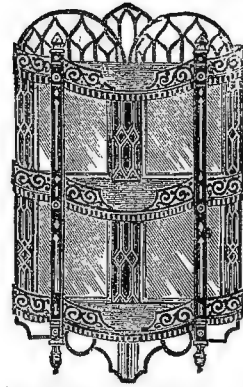
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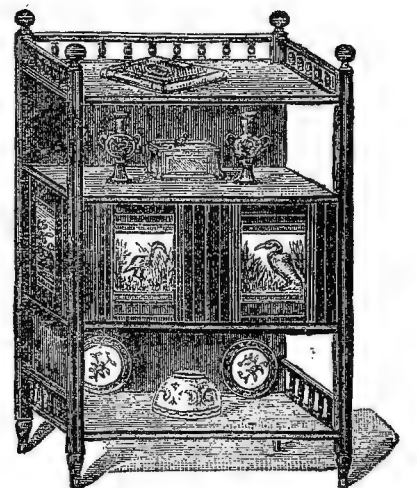
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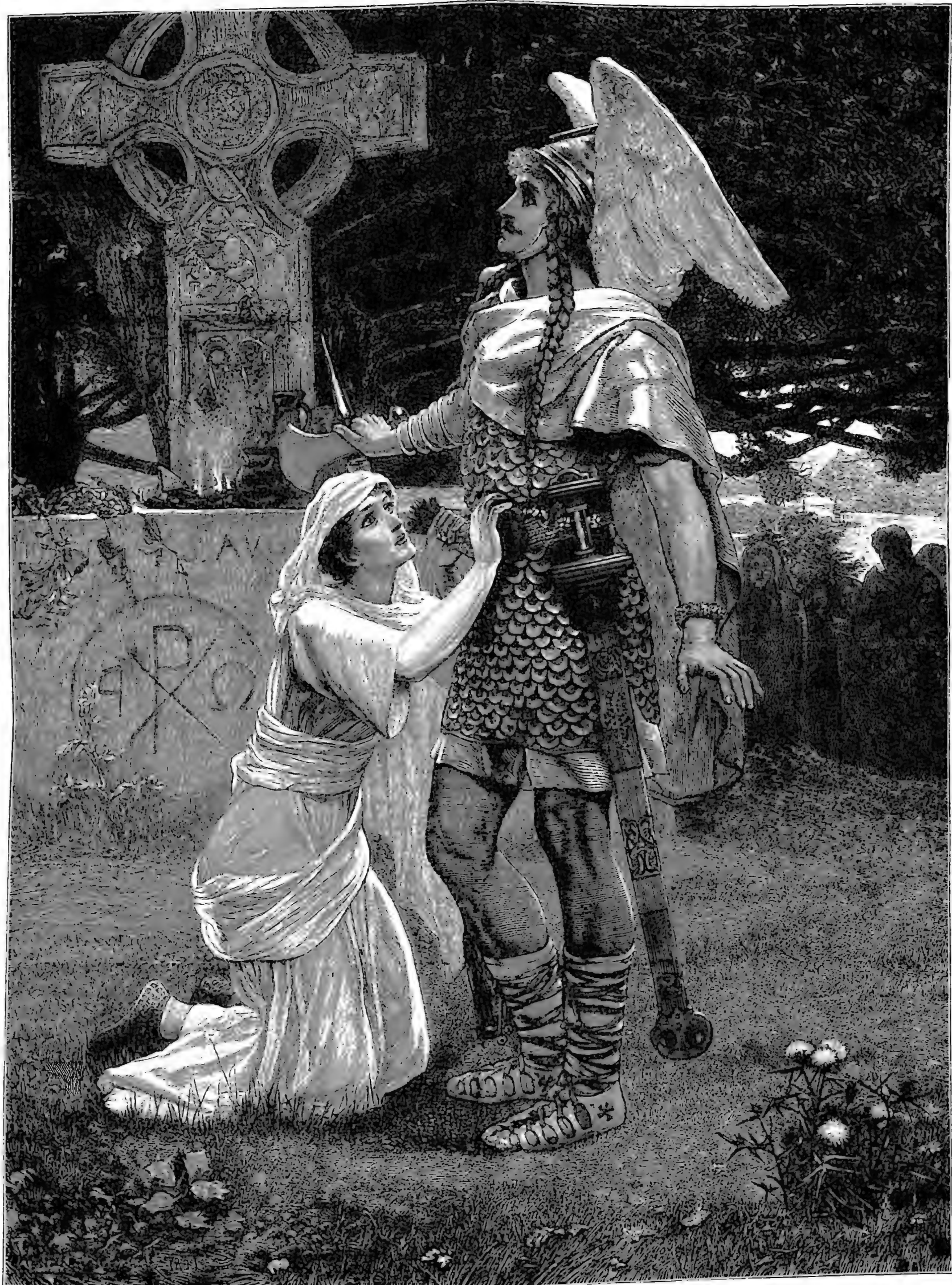
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Clean from her forehead all that wealth of hair
Which made a silken mat-work for her feet;
And out of this she plaited broad and long
A strong sword-belt, and wove with silver thread
And crimson in the belt a strange device,

'A crimson Grail within a silver beam;
And saw the bright boy-knight, and bound it on him,
Saying, 'My knight, my love, my knight of heaven,
O thou, my love, whose love is one with mine,
I, maiden, round thee, maiden, bind my belt.
Go forth, for thou shalt see what I have seen,

"And break thro' all, till one will crown thee king
Far in the spiritual city:" and as she spake
She sent the deathless passion in her eyes
Thro' him, and made him her's, and laid her mind
On him, and he believed in her belief."
"THE HOLY GRAIL."—Tennyson.



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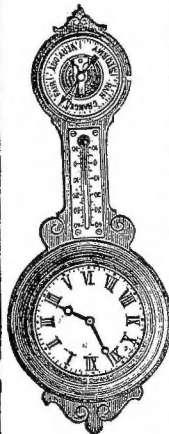
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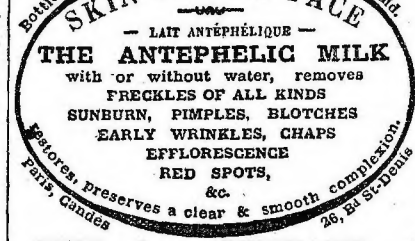
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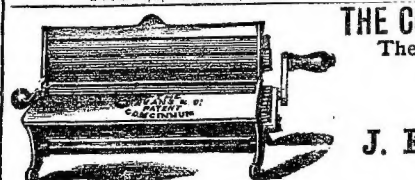
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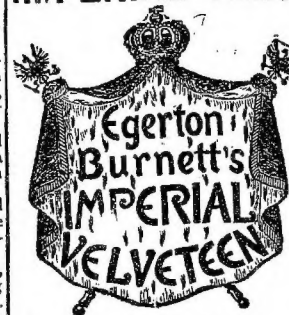


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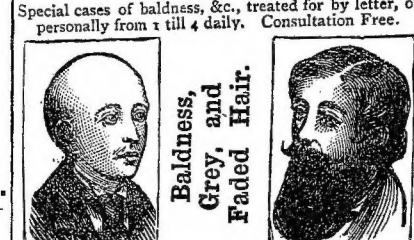
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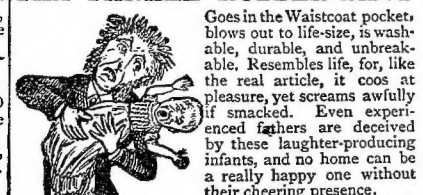
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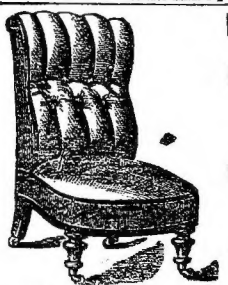
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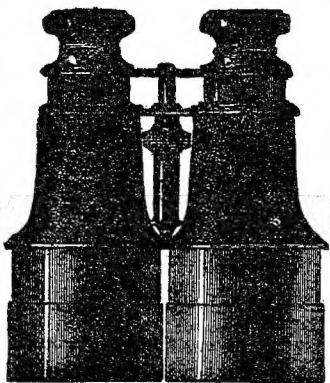
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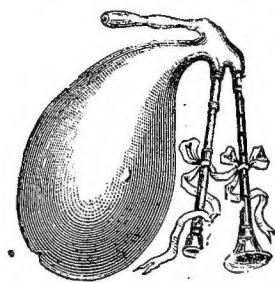
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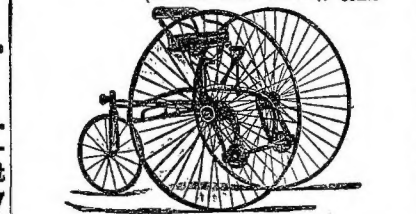
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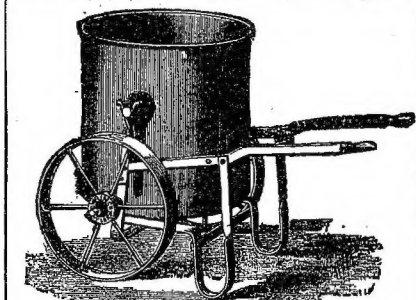
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